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Thursday, February 20, 2025

SALUTE TO COMMUNITY BUSINESSES See pages A8,A9

OHS senior helps Christian Neighbors with Share Table

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Well-known author and speaker Stephen Covey once said, "Be part of the solution, not part of the problem."

Otsego High School senior Lexi Gross is doing just that.

When she noticed a large amount of fresh fruit being thrown out in the school cafeteria each day, it bothered Gross. So she came up with an idea: Why not donate the fruit—which had nothing wrong with it—to Christian Neighbors for use in its food pantry?

Thus was born the "Share Table," which results in an average of more than 100 pounds of fruit each week being delivered to Christian Neighbors.

Gross started the Share Table through her involvement with the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, a volunteer group that meets regularly with Otsego Public Schools superintendent Jeff Haase.

"When I was a freshman, I joined the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council, which was a new group at the time," Gross said. "I've been active with the group all four years of high school, and this year I am co-president."

The purpose of the group, according to Gross, is "to make (Otsego High School) a better place by sharing the students' perspective and voice."

"We're encouraged to have ideas, and we've learned that an idea is just an idea until you put some work behind it to implement the change," Gross said.

So, Gross took her concerns about the wasted fruit to Haase during one of the meetings.

At first, Gross suggested that students simply being allowed to say "no thank you" to the fruit as a way to avoid wasting it.

Haase suggested that Gross take her concerns to the school's food-service staff. That's when Gross discovered that not taking the fruit wasn't an option.

Otsego High School senior Lexi Gross is seen with some of the fruit that was collected as part of the Share Table initiative that donates uneaten fruit to Christian Neighbors. (Photo provided)

"I learned the Michigan School Meals program, which funds the free lunch program, requires that fresh fruit or a vegetable be provided with each student lunch," she said. "But I continued to see large amounts of fruit in the garbage and began to brainstorm ways to get the fruit into the hands of people who need it."

Working with the staff of food service, Gross formulated the idea for the Share Table.

The concept was simple: if students didn't eat their fruit for the day, they could place it in a basket on the Share Table rather than in the trash can.

OPS Director of Communications Holly McCaw helped Gross spread the word about the Share Table and its mission.

"The idea has been embraced by everyone," Gross said.

Two or three times a week, Gross delivers the food to Christian Neighbors. The total weekly weight ranges from 115 to 150 pounds.

Gross is proud of what the students have accomplished so far.

"The Share Table is just getting started, but I'm excited about sharing that food with people in need," she said. "I'm thankful to go to school where the superintendent cares about the students enough to encourage and empower them, and where the food service staff, students and administration were all willing to help."

Bulldog Esports Club starts at Otsego High School

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

A group of 11 students recently made history at Otsego High School.

They are part of the school's inaugural Bulldog Esports Club, which held its first competition on Wednesday, Feb. 12.

The Otsego team took on the team from Loy Norrix in the game Rocket League, with Otsego taking the best-of-five showdown 3-0.

Otsego won by scores of 6-0, 4-0 and 5-0.

OHS English/computer science/business teacher Sara Badiner serves as the club's advisor.

"Our first competition went well," Badiner said.

Team members include Jack Badiner, Jarred Curtiss, Caesar Henshaw, Lucas Johnson, Amarra Kuiper, Blake Moulter, Ethan Pegg, Max Ott, Gabe Radcliffe, Cordell Stoneburner and Tristan Walma.

According to Badiner, one reason the team chose Rocket League as its game because many colleges are currently recruiting Rocket League players for their esports teams.

That's right. Students can earn college scholarships through esports, as more and more colleges are creating esports teams.

"I figured if we could have a team, we should also use it to our advantage by choosing a game title that might create another way for students to potentially earn money for higher education," Badiner said.

The varsity competition includes teams of three competing against each other. JV matches are also best of five, but are 2-versus-2.

Otsego's JV teams weren't able to get matches against other schools last week. But they did scrimmage each other, and were able to earn points toward league competition in the process.

Otsego joined the Michigan High School eSports Federation (MiHSEF), which is made up of a large number of Michigan schools.

The team meets for formal practice one day a week for approximately two hours. In addition to that, team members frequently practice and challenge each other outside of school.

Practices and competitions take place in the school's esports room with regular-season competitions all online. The only in-person events are the playoffs.

While this is the first year for the Bulle Esports Club, it's something Badiner has been interested in starting for several years, dating back to before the COVID pandemic.

Then during the pandemic, she noticed that video games provided one of the only ways for her sons to connect with their friends.

"I started to realize how gaming was such a crucial part of this generation and their social interaction," she said.

Badiner also appreciates the problem-solving aspect of esports.

"My son Jack, who was 10 at the time, was playing a game on his Nintendo Switch online with one of his friends," she said. "This version of the game didn't have any way to communicate with other players, but it had audio that was important to game play.

"I watched Jack troubleshoot all the problems. It seems trivial, but this image was pivotal to my understanding of the importance of esports. I knew this was something we could bring to school and start fostering in our students."

Thus began Badiner's journey to making the Bulldog Esports Club a reality.

OHS principal Thomas Reed was all for the idea, having come from a school that had an esports team.

"(Reed) had already seen, firsthand, the benefits of a club like this," Badiner said.

Those benefits, in addition to the problem-solving aspect, include allowing students who might not otherwise participate in a school-related activity the opportunity to do so.

"I really wanted to create an inclusive space where students who love gaming could connect, compete and

see eSports, Page A12

Members of the inaugural Bulldog Esports Club are seen competing against Loy Norrix in a match on Wednesday, Feb. 12. (Photos provided)

Plainwell hosts ribbon cutting at new field house

The new Plainwell Field House hosted its first even about a month ago when the high school basketball team's welcomed archrival Otsego. And on Monday, Feb. 17, the district held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the facility. Plainwell superintendent Matthew Montange did the honors of cutting the ribbon, with Plainwell school boards members and representatives from the construction firm that build the facility also on hand. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

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DNR officials suspect bird flu of geese in Allegan

Michigan Department of Natural Resources officials say 77 Canada geese and one mallard at the Fennville Farm Unit at the Allegan State Game Area in Allegan County are among more than 300 wild birds that have died in the state, the victims of bird flu.

Even though the deadly virus is causing the most concern in the agricultural world, where bird flu has ripped through poultry flocks by the millions since the current outbreak took off, DNR officials say the virus is "widespread" in wild flocks.

DNR scientists say serious impacts to overall duck, goose or swan populations aren't expected in Michigan, but the bird flu has killed "numerous" bald eagles and colony nesting birds like terns and cormorants. They say it's too early to determine whether the outbreak will mean a large-scale reduction in the populations, but research is ongoing.

Samples from birds collected in Allegan, Shiawassee, Ingham, and Washtenaw counties were tested at the Michigan State University Veterinary Diagnostics Lab in East Lansing and have been forwarded to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Veterinary Services Lab in Ames, Iowa for confirmation of bird flu.

The last time the avian flu was so broadly active across the state's wild populations was 2022, but DNR officials say this latest outbreak is not as severe.

The virus spreads through fecal droppings or nasal discharge of an infected bird,

Clarke, Reed, and Meadows entertain at Griswold

By Gari Voss

Clarke, Reed and Meadows (CRM) delighted the audience at the Griswold Auditorium in Allegan on Sunday, February 16, 2025, with their harmonies and varied arrangements. The group shared covers from the 60s and 70s, international pieces, and their own folk originals.

Before forming CRM, each performer established themself on other platforms. Ryne Clarke, who lends guitar, vocals and harmonica, has been associated with The Preservers, Alien Dogs, The Soods, and The Ryne Experience, a solo project. David Reed Ophoff, who adds guitar, vocals and mandolin, performed with the Short Panic and played with the Grand Rapids Community College (GRCC) Jazz Band. Meagan Meadows, a GRCC music graduate, compliments the trio with vocals and violin, and brings a background as a trained vocalist.

CRM was the second edition of the Cabin Fever Reliever 2025 concert series that is a collaboration between the K'zoo Folklife/Allegan Chapter and the City of Allegan. The third concert will be March 2, 2025, 2-4pm with the Great Lakes Brass. The final concert will be on April 13th with Ellis & M.E. Each concert will have beer, wine and other refreshments. Though the concerts are free, contributions are welcome.

$7.2 million grant sought for washout fix

By John Raffel
Correspondent

ALLEGAN - The Allegan County Road Commission has submitted a detailed, 71-page grant application for $7.2 million see from a federal road program to replace a section of Lakeshore Drive hit by a series of erosion damages, including a complete washout in 1988. The road commission proposes relocating inland a section of Lakeshore Drive in Saugatuck township from 128th Avenue north to 130th Avenue/ Wiley Road. The total project cost is an estimated $9 million. A state agency has pledged $1,000,000 to match the grant award while Saugatuck Township has offered $250,000.

"Getting this far in addressing the ongoing public safety concern of reaching isolated residences in a timely manner has been a trudging process," former county commissioner Jim Story said. "The road agency received assistance from the coastal zone management program in 2022-2023 to help design the relocated roadway section, to be named 69 th Street when completed to fit with the county's road identification protocol. The federal funding program BUILD: Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development.

"If the grant is approved, there are still many steps ahead including a detailed environmental assessment that could run into late 2026 and must be completed before right-of-way acquisition, engineering and design construction can occur. The latter is envisioned for 2027 and 2028, which would be the 40th anniversary of the washout if the funding from the feds comes through. In late December, the Congress approved more than $1 billion to replace the Baltimore Harbor bridge felled by an errant container ship last year."

According to published reports quoting the Mayland Transportation Authority, planning and designing the bridge replacement will cost $75 million.

Allegan County Agricultural Society opens scholarship application

By Gari Voss

The Allegan County Agricultural Society, that hosts the Allegan County Fair, provides scholarships to students wishing to pursue a post-secondary education.

"This scholarship requires that applicants have participated in exhibiting at the Allegan County Fair for three out of four years the student is in high school," explained the organizers.

When interested students go to https://loom.ly/fSCLSCI, the scholarship fund application guides students through the process. All applications and supporting documents must be submitted to the Allegan County Fair Board by April 1, 2025, to be considered for the 2025 scholarship.

The Allegan County Agricultural Society is a 501(c)(5) that was organized by Elisha Ely in 1852 to host the Allegan County Fair that was originally held at the County Court House/Baptist Church. The Fair grew and relocated.

Currently, the fairground resides in the city of Allegan on 115 acres of land along the Kalamazoo River, and has a 12,000 seat capacity grandstand, a racetrack, Rumery Show Arena, an Expo Center, animal barns, plus other exhibition buildings including the John Pahl Historical Village affiliated with the Allegan County Historical Society.

In addition to hosting the Allegan County Fair that begins each year on the Friday following Labor Day, the Agricultural Society hosts numerous events such as the Michigan Fiber Festival and the summer antique fairs.

Through the Agricultural Society's management comes the offering of the scholarships to young people who have contributed to the success of the Fair by preparing and showing their entries during their high school years.

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ALLEGAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Public Notice of Intent to Dispose of Firearms

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If you have a valid claim to any of these firearms, and are authorized to possess firearms, contact Lt. Mike Brown to get the gun returned to you.

Contact:
Lt. Mike Brown, Allegan Co Sheriff's Office
640 River St, Allegan, MI 49010
Ph# 269-673-0500 ext 4592, or mbrown@allegancounty.org

Complaint#	Make	Model	Caliber	Serial#
21014-20	Ruger	Mod Security-six revolver	.357	150-87997
21014-20	Marlin	Mod 60 rifle	.22lr	14408542
21014-20	Remington	Mod 870 Express	12ga	B572031M
21014-20	CVA	Mod Optima rifle	.50 cal	none
21014-20	Winchester	Mod 94 AE rifle	30-30	5289209
976-14	Dan Wesson	Mod .357 revolver	.357	129266
18093-15	Glock	Mod G22 pistol	.40	VNA124
12166-09	Stevens	Mod 94 shotgun	20ga	P213544
2224-13	CAI	Romanian AK rifle	7.62x39	S-BC2729
973-11	Mossberg	Mod pump shotgun	12ga	R301324
2727-14	Ithaca	Mod 37 shotgun	12ga	356359
2947-13	CVA	Mod Wolf Muzzleloader	50cal	61-13-050850-07
7995-10	Mossberg	Mod Pump shotgun	12ga	R854863
7995-10	Marlin	Mod 882 rifle	.22wmr	06488396
138-11	Remington	Mod 597 rifle	.22lr	A2747511
16900-10	Remington	Mod 572 rifle	.22lr	none(old)
16900-10	Remington	Mod 11-48 shotgun	20ga	82591
3410-12	Mossberg	Mod Slugster shotgun	12ga	J717355
8578-17	Beretta	Mod 1934 pistol	9mm	626992
18938-23	Bersa	Mod Thunder380 pistol	.380	800205
12593-13	Fabrinor Victoria	Mod Firestorm pistol	.45	71-04-08224-02
12593-13	Sundance Industries	Mod A-25 pistol	.25	062808
18539-15	Ruger	Mod SR9 pistol	9mm	335-25094
8057-15	Ruger	Mod Super Blackhawk revolver	.44mag	85-47317
7995-10	Ruger	Mod Mini-14 rifle	.223	185-60702
16417-10	Remington	Mod 870 Express shotgun	12ga	B978635M
15747-10	Marlin	Mod 336SC rifle	35rem	H5171
14532-15	S&W	Mod M&P 9 pistol	9mm	HKK0099
10231-15	Glock	Mod G19 pistol	9mm	MNP619
5804-16	Ruger	Mod LC9s pistol	9mm	328-70876
8461-16	Hi-Point	Mod C9 pistol	9mm	P1869135
16976-11	Savage	Mod 110 rifle	30-06	B600501
18901-17	Knight	Mod Blackpowder rifle	.50cal	413881
5875-14	Mossberg	Mod 835 shotgun	12ga	UM161265

Complaint#	Make	Model	Caliber	Serial#
11572-15	Hi-Point	Mod C9 pistol	9mm	P1885974
20887-17	Taurus	Mod PT111 pistol	9mm	TK043814
6523-17	H&R	Mod 949 revolver	.22lr	AN111535
18-17	S&W	Mod M&P 9 Shield	9mm	HMX1062
4860-14	Taurus	Mod PT24/7 G2 pistol	.40	SER30059
7995-10	AMT	Mod 1911 Hardballer pistol	.45acp	A21224
13764-17	S&W	Mod M&P Bodyguard 380 pistol	.380	KEF2326
1684-13	RG	Mod RG 23 revolver	.22lr	T606714
5892-18	S&W	Mod 442 revolver	.38	CMN3696
16163-12	Taurus	Mod PT-22 pistol	.22lr	Y149215
18066-17	Glock	Mod G23 pistol	.40cal	PXF005
12277-16	Ruger	Mod 22 Charger pistol	.22lr	490-71648
13669-12	Remington	Mod R15VTR rifle	.223	RA034292
13669-12	Browning	Mod A-bolt rifle	.300win	41254NZ717
13669-12	Ruger	Mod LCR revolver	.22lr	548-14264
12039-12	Mossberg	Mod 500 Slugster shotgun	12ga	L050916
16056-19	Remington	Mod 870 Magnum shotgun	12ga	W610091M
13669-12	Mossberg	Mod 930 Shotgun	12ga	AF018142
14475-11	Stevens	Mod single shot shotgun	12ga	none
13669-12	Mossberg	Mod 500 shotgun	20ga	R751168
16588-16	Mossberg	Mod 500 shotgun	12ga	G530471
10459-16	New England	Mod Pardner shotgun	12ga	HW505234
13669-12	H&R	Mod Ultraslug shotgun	20ga	CAC296366
14394-12	IJA	Mod Target revolver	.22lr	N21881
13669-12	Remington	Mod 700 ML rifle	.50cal	ML104817
13669-12	New England	Mod Pardner shotgun	20ga	NR241125
327-13	Savage	Mod 11D rifle	30-06	F227865
15833-13	Mossberg	Mod 835 shotgun	12ga	UM51143
13167-13	Mossberg	Mod 835 shotgun	12ga	UM124528
20578-20	Mossberg	Mod 500A shotgun	12ga	R043927
6359-11	Marlin	Mod 60 Rifle	.22lr	17351854

Henika Library bursting at the seams with activities

By Cindy Sasser

While perusing the Allegan County Facebook groups for winter activity opportunities, I've come across quite a few posts for events being hosted at the Henika District Library, located at 149 South Main Street in Wayland, Michigan. I found a multitude of different events such as a Bingo Brunch, Drop-in Tech Help every other Friday, Preschool Playtime and Storytime, a Stitching Circle, and even a Small Space Gardening event in March as they offer a seed library for gardening enthusiasts. If, like me, you weren't quite sure what a seed library is, this is what their Services section explained: "A Seed Library is a section in your local library that provides free seeds for the community! They enable community members to grow their own food, dabble in a new gardening hobby, or even spread indigenous wildflowers in the local environment without the initial cost of purchasing seeds."

These are only a handful of many great offerings that you can find on their Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/HenikaDistrictLibrary and on their website.

While delving in on their website and other sources, I found it to have quite an interesting history as well. It was founded in 1899 when Julia Henika left $2,000 to establish a ladies' library in Wayland.

Photo Credit: Wingerham52

Her generosity laid the foundation for what would become the Henika District Library.

The original structure, designed in the Richardsonian Romanesque architectural style, is a notable feature within the Wayland Downtown Historic District. This architectural choice not only adds aesthetic value but also signifies the importance placed on public institutions during that era. The building stands as a prominent landmark within the historic district.

Supporting the library's mission is the "Friends of Henika Library," a dedicated group of volunteers committed to enhancing the library's services. Through fundraising activities, book sales, and volunteer efforts, they provide invaluable support, ensuring the library continues to thrive and serve the community effectively.

Today, the Henika District Library serves as a vibrant community hub, offering a wide array of services and resources to residents of Wayland City and Wayland Township.

One of the things to appreciate about Henika Library is how it has evolved to meet the needs of modern readers while still maintaining its historical charm. As a member of the Lakeland Library Cooperative, it provides access to an impressive collection of books, digital resources, and multimedia materials. This collaboration enhances the library's offerings, ensuring that users have a diverse range of materials at their disposal.

One I must mention is their "Special Collection" which are items that can be checked out for a week at a time. They have a CPR & First Aid Anywhere Training Kit, Chromebooks, a circular saw, a cordless drill, many other power tools, a sewing machine, a GoPro, a PlayStation, and this impressive list just goes on! You'll find this under the "Catalog" tab on their website. You'll find a plethora of wonderful resources under "Events, Catalog, Services, and eResources" on their website: www.henikalibrary.org/.

Its rich architectural heritage, along with a commitment to providing diverse resources and programs, ensures that the library remains an integral part of the community's cultural and educational landscape. Whether you're a resident of Wayland or just passing through, I highly recommend stepping inside and seeing for yourself what makes this library so special.

Addyson Brown Signs with UC Davis Equestrian Team

Addyson Brown of Fennville has officially signed her National Letter of Intent to join the UC Davis Equestrian Team, marking a significant milestone in her equestrian career. Brown, a standout rider known for her dedication and competitive spirit, has achieved remarkable success in the equestrian arena. Her strong performances and commitment to excellence have earned her a place on the UC Davis team, where she will continue to develop her skills at the collegiate level.

Brown's journey to UC Davis has been marked by years of hard work, discipline, and passion for the sport. She has competed at the highest levels in both high school and quarter horse circuits. As the lone member of the Fennville High School Equestrian Team she is a two time District Champion (2023 & 2024). In 2023, she was the Regional Reserve Champion (2nd Place) and placed 3 rd at State.

The 2024 season brought her a second District title, a 3rd place finish at Regionals, and Reserve Champion at State.

Addyson also competes on the Quarter Horse Circuit under the guidance of trainer Morgan Lantz Korman. After a close district loss in the fall of 2022, she committed to elevating her training and set a goal to ride at the collegiate level. Her dedication has led to impressive achievements, including being a two-time Champion at the Level 1 East Quarter Horse Show, earning multiple Top 15 finishes and four Top 5 placements. She also secured a Top 10 placing at the Quarter Horse Youth World Show and became a three-time Class Finalist at the All American Quarter Horse Congress Show.

Additionally, Addyson was named the Year-End Reserve Champion for the Michigan Quarter Horse Rookie Youth Division, accumulating enough points throughout the year at Michigan Quarter Horse shows to rank second among all youth riders.

Fennville's Snowcoming Queen & King Crowned

Seniors Dasaly Herrera and Daymien Logsdon were crowned Snowcoming Queen and King at Fennville High School, on Fri., Feb. 14, 2025. Though the Falcons fell to the Allegan Tigers, the spirit was high during the halftime celebration and the after game Snowcoming Dance. Photo: J. Leonard

Hydropower staging a global comeback?

By John Raffel
Correspondent

ALLEGAN – As companies and governmental bureaucracies in the U.S. back away from the predictable, reliable hydroelectric dams' production, other countries are looking to the first green energy source, hydroelectric generation, to come into line with atmospheric climate concerns.

Last week the Norwegian parliament voted to remove protections from four hundred rivers that were previously off-limits to hydroelectric development. Norway's electric supply is dominated by hydro production.

According to published reports, 96 percent of the country's electric supply is sourced from hydroelectric generating stations, making it some of the most inexpensive power in Europe.

Elsewhere, Brazil has authorized the export of hydroelectric produced megawatts to other South American nations as reservoirs fill up and Brazil experiences a power surplus.

As previously reported, China is mulling the construction of what would be the largest hydroelectric dam in the world near its border with India.

"Michigan has many hydroelectric dams, thirteen of which are lower peninsula facilities owned by Consumers Energy including the Calkins Street unit in Allegan County. As the utility's licenses on the rivers begin to expire, the company is pursuing an exit strategy due to increased maintenance costs and regulations decreasing watercflow through the turbines that generate electricity," former county commissioner Jim Storey said. "Many of the desires to move backward from hydro are rooted in sympathy for fish populations, rather than people who depend on electricity for daily life needs or those who live around the impoundments created by the dams."

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Community Events

Community Calendar - Week of Feb. 17, 2025

EVENTS TO WATCH FOR!

February: Peanut Butter Drive, ends Feb. 28th
Deliver jars of peanut butter or money to ACCF Office in the old City Hall on Locust Allegan
https://alleganfoundation.org/allegan-county-food-pantry-collaborative/peanut-butter-drive/

Wed., Feb. 19, 2025, 2:30pm: Friends on Wednesday – Cold Cases
1st Presbyterian Church 200 Cutler St. Allegan

Fri., Feb. 21, 2025, 8-10am: Coffee with Councilmembers
Mugshots Coffeehouse Water St. Allegan

CURRENT EVENTS

Wed., Feb. 19, 2025, 1pm: Play-Doh Play Lab
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Ages 0-7 can drop in and create with Play-Doh.

Wed., Feb. 19, 2025, 2:30pm: Friends on Wednesday – Cold Cases
1st Presbyterian Church 200 Cutler St. Allegan
Learn how cold cases get solved with Dr. Ashlyn Kuersten of WMU Cold Case Program.

Wed., Feb. 19, 2025, 5:30pm: Pub Quiz Trivia
Tantrick Brewing Co. 243 Hubbard St. Allegan
Bring a team and your library card and test your knowledge!

Thurs., Feb. 20, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

10:30am: Preschool Storytime w/Help Me Grow. Kids 3-5 years and caregivers can drop in to enjoy books and activities.

3:30pm: Tween STEAM Club. Students in grades 5-8 can join the new STEAM Club. Registration required at 269 673-4625.

6-7pm: Cricut for Beginners. Learn to use the Cricut machines to make a vinyl decal. Registration required at 269 673-4625.

Thurs., Feb. 20, 2025, 4-6pm: Third Thirsty Thursday
Tantrick Brewing Co 243 Hubbard St. Allegan
The Allegan Area Chamber of Commerce and the Allegan Jaycee's are collaborating to introduce Third Thirsty Thursdays for 2025! This exciting new event is for the movers & shakers in the Allegan area community, who are looking to network and make connections in a relaxed setting,

Thurs., Feb. 20, 2025, 6:30pm: 1st Annual Puzzle Contest
Hungry for Christ 4565 135th Ave. Allegan
Gather a team of 3-4 puzzle enthusiasts and enjoy an evening of fun & snacks. Go to Hungry for Christ Facebook page and use the QR code to register.

Thurs., Feb. 20, 2025, 6:30pm: Music Bingo Thursday
Tantrick Brewing Co 243 Hubbard St. Allegan
Bring a friend and check your memory!

Fri., Feb. 21, 2025, 8-10am: Coffee with Councilmembers
Mugshots Coffeehouse Water St. Allegan
Council Members Hooker and Walker will be available at Mugshots and invite residents to come and talk to share ideas and reflect.

Fri., Feb. 21, 2025, 6pm: Teen Tech Night
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
Students in grades 6-12 can experience virtual reality, explore 3-D printing, and play video games. Registration required at 269 673-4625.

Sat., Feb. 22, 2025, 11am: Jumpstart Your Genealogy
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
All are welcome to drop in and work with Megan Heyl to hunt down and organize family history.

Mon., Feb. 24, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

1pm: Craft & Snack. Bring you own craft and craft, snack & chat.

6pm: Bingo. Drop in and enjoy lively games of Bingo.

Tues., Feb. 25, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

10:30am: Lapsit Storytime. 0-2 age children and caregivers can drop in to enjoy stories & activities.

1pm: Friends of the Library Meeting. All are welcome to plan ways to support the library.

4pm: TAB - Tween Advisory Board. Students in grades 5-8 are encouraged to drop in and help plan activities.

Wed., Feb. 26, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

10am: Play Café. Caregivers are welcome to enjoy a cup of coffee while the little ones play.

4-5pm: Live Birds of Prey. Join Outdoor Discovery Center and their birds of prey. Registration required at 269 673-4625.

Wed., Feb. 26, 2025, 2-4pm: Friends on Wednesday - Trivia with Friends
1st Presbyterian Church 200 Allegan
Join the fun and bring friends to create a winning team. Prizes will be awarded. Kim Falcon will be Trivia Master.

Wed., Feb. 26, 2025, 6-8pm: Wine & Canvas
LYNX Golf Course 700 M-89 Otsego
The Grill will be open during this event.

Wed., Feb. 26, 2025, 7pm: Dancing with the Star Staff
Wayland Union Fine Arts Center Wayland
WUS Staff compete to win 1st Place and the Mirror Ball Trophy. Bring dollars to vote for favorite dancer. Tickets at WUFACTICKETS.LUDUS.COM.

Thurs., Feb. 27, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

10:30am: Preschool Storytime w/Help Me Grow. Kids 3-5 years and caregivers can drop in to enjoy books and activities.

6-7pm: Historic Sewing Presentation. Drop in and join the Swordsmanship Museum & Academy for a presentation of the history of sewing.

Thurs., Feb. 27, 2025, 6:30pm: Music Bingo Thursday
Tantrick Brewing Co 243 Hubbard St. Allegan
Bring a friend and check your memory!

Fri., Feb. 28, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

10:30am: Sing Song Family Yoga. Drop in and join Deb Weiss-Gelmi as she combines yoga, music & literacy.

1pm: Drop in Lego Club. Students grades 6-12 can drop in and create with Legos.

Fri., Feb 28, 2925: Pawsitive Change Walk-a-Thon
Allegan High School Field House M-40 Allegan
AHS Middle School students will participate in a walk-a-thon to raise $15,000 for their facility dog. The fundraiser was organized by the Student Council in collaboration with the Be Nice Team, as a unique mission to create a caring atmosphere throughout the middle school. Donations can be made at https://gofund.me/01a38cef. or send a check to Allegan Public Schools, 550 5th St., Allegan, MI 49010 with a notation "Pawsitive Change" or "LE White Facility Dog"

Sun., Mar. 2, 2025, 2-4pm: Cabin Fever Reliever 2025 - Great Lakes Brass
Griswold Auditorium 401 Hubbard St. Allegan
K'zoo Folklife/Allegan Chapter & the City of Allegan welcome all to enjoy Great Lakes Brass. Beer, wine and other refreshments will be available. Donations will be accepted at the door.

Tues., Mar. 4, 2025, 10am-3pm: Winter Market
Glenn Community Center 6961 114th Ave Glenn
The Glenn Community Center's Annual Winter Market features a variety of vendors focusing on local produce, products, and handmade artistry. Our commercial kitchen will be open to serve a light breakfast and hearty lunch to enjoy by a warm fire.

Wed., Mar. 5, 2025, 6-8pm: Hydrangeas
Brave Art Studios 1873 Lincoln Rd. Allegan
Learn to paint lovely hydrangeas. Register at https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr. For info email. brave.art.carr@gmail.com.

Thurs., Mar. 6, 2025, 1-3pm: Hydrangeas
Brave Art Studios 1873 Lincoln Rd. Allegan
Learn to paint lovely hydrangeas. Register at https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr. For info email. brave.art.carr@gmail.com.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

ASSISTANCE

Adventist Community Service Center
218 S. Farmer St. Otsego Tues. 10am-4pm; Thurs. 1-5pm
Clothes for the family and household goods are available, layettes for newborns, clothing, diapers, toys, etc. for babies to 6 mo. For emergency needs, call 269 694-4775 or Marlene 269 217-8293. This is supported by the 7th-Day Adventist Church and an ACCF TAG Grant.

Allegan County Community Action - Assistance for daily living
23 Water Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.communityactionallegan.org, (269) 673-5472
Food, weatherization, early childhood education.

Allegan Homeless Solutions - Helping eliminate barriers to housing.
108 Grant St., Plainwell MI 49080
www.alleganhomelesssolutions.org, Email: info@alleganhomelesssolutions.org

The Arc of Allegan County - Advocates for people with disabilities
219 Hubbard Street, Allegan 269 673-8841
Mission to advocate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the community.

Baby Closet – Newborn Clothing and Supplies
Diaper Closet – monthly diaper program
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street Allegan
Call 269 673-2254 and leave a message.

Christian Neighbors - Food, Education, Emergency Financial Assistance
282 12th Street Plainwell MI 49080 (269) 685-4166
Monday: Drive-thru only - 10am-12pm and 4pm-6pm.
Tuesday: In person shopping/walk ins - 10am-12pm
Thursday: In person shopping/walk ins - 2pm-5pm
We have been providing services to the Plainwell, Otsego and Martin areas since 1983.

Community Clothes Closet – Free Clothing and More
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street, Allegan (269) 673-2254
Open Fridays, 10am – 1pm A wide selection of clothing for all ages is available.

People Helping People of Pullman
Assistance by appt. 269 236-6295

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www.alleganregent.com
269-673-2737
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Nominated for six Academy Awards including Best Picture
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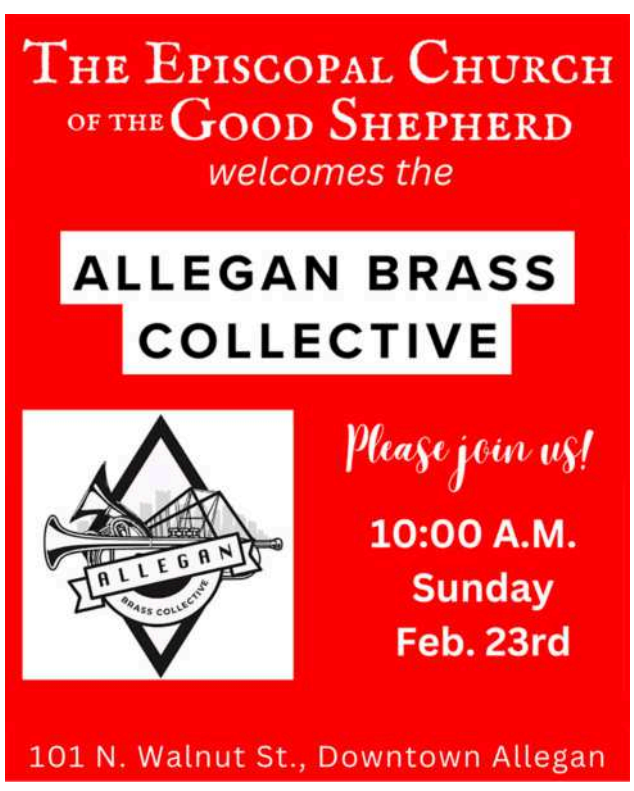
Friday, Feb. 21 - Thursday, Feb. 27
7pm Feature • $5 – Sat. & Sun. 2pm Matinee • $4
DAILY SPECIALS
Mondays - 2-for-1 Admission • Tuesdays- 25 cent Popcorn
FLASHBACK FRIDAY!
RoboCop (1987) • Feb. 28 @ 9:30pm • $5



Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center - abuse prevention and healing
402 Trowbridge Street, Allegan, MI 49010 www.safeharborallegan.org, (269) 673-3791

St. Vincent de Paul-St. Margaret Conference - Food and More
St. Vincent de Paul 124A W. Allegan St. Otsego
Mon.: 1-3pm Tues. & Thurs: 10am to noon Wed.: 3-5pm
Food pantry and limited financial aid. Dtvincentdepaul9005@gmail.com
Serves Otsego, Plainwell and Martin School Districts

Sylvia's Place - Safe from Domestic Violence
Crisis Line: 269 673-8700

United Church of Wayland - Free Clothing
1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, 4 - 6pm
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

Wings of Hope Hospice & Palliative Care - End of Life Care
530 Linn Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.wingsofhopehospice.com, (269) 686-8659

FOOD

Allegan Food Pantry
Church of God, 1313 Lincoln Rd., Allegan
Monday: 10 am–1pm; Tues.: 2–7pm; Fri. 1-4pm Curbside Service
Contact: Phone: 269 686-6369
Deliveries are made to homebound senior citizens.

Christian Neighbors, SE
282 12th St. Plainwell 269 685-4166

Christian Neighbors, Wayland
122 Church St. Wayland 269 792-2870

Congregational Kitchen - Thursday Dinner Pickup
Congregational Church 325 Cutler Street Allegan
Call (269) 673-3139 after 3pm any Thursday and place an order.
Thursdays: Pick up 3 to 5:30 pm. Takeout dinners only during COVID-19

Epiphany Lutheran Church
4219 Park Land Dorr 616 681-0791

Food Truck - 3rd Friday of each month, 4:30 - 5:30pm
United Church of Wayland
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

Hamilton Christian Reformed Church / Love INC
3596 47th St. Hamilton, 269 751-2533

The Hands of Grace Food Pantry
United Methodist Church, 409 Trowbridge St., Allegan 269 673-4236
Tuesday: 9-11:45 a.m.; Wednesday: 9-11:45 a.m. and 7-9 p.m.; Friday: 10-11:45 a.m.
Food Pantry serves FOOD to residents of Allegan 49010 w/valid ID with current address ONLY.

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 Maple St. Hopkins
269 793-7340

Hungry for Christ
4565 135th Ave. Hamilton, 269 264-1307 x1000

Ladders of Hope USA - Food Assistance
717 East Main St, Fennville, MI 49408, www.laddersofhopemi.org, (269) 455-9452

Martin Area Resource Center
1445 10th St, Martin (269) 672-5605
No appointment needed. Pick up by one person per household.

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St. Martin 269 672-7097

Mobile Food Pantry, 2nd Monday of the Month: Drive Thru Food Distribution
Casco United Methodist Church 880 66th ST, South Haven MI 49090
Pantry items a pre-packaged. Limit - one box per vehicle.

Project Hope
1808 143rd Ave. Dorr
616 681-4673 appt. only

The Vine Food Pantry / Love, INC
Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave, Allegan, MI · (269) 673-2329

FUN FOR THE FAMILY

Bingo!, Wednesdays, 6pm: American Legion Hall
Corner of Eastern Avenue and Hooker, Allegan

Allegan District Library, M-Th 10am-8pm, F 10am-5:30pm, Sat.10am-4pm:
Plus, Carnegie Corner Bookstore (Friend available on Tuesdays)
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard Street, lower level Allegan (269) 673-4625

Allegan Event – Ropes Course, Walls and More
439 River Street Allegan
Twilight Special: Thurs., 4-9pm, 2hrs. for $18
Free Game Card: Fri., 4-9pm w/ $20 food purchase
Family 4-Pack: Sat., 5-9pm, 4 premier combo tickets w/pizza+ for $130
For more information call 269-430-3961 or check online at https://www.alleganevent.com

Allegan County Historical Society, Old Jail Museum.
Saturdays, 10 am – 4 pm, (269) 673-8292. Call to confirm hours or arrange for a private tour.
Email: oldjailmuseum06@yahoo.com Webpage: www.alleganoldjail.com

Iron Bridge Quilters - Thursdays, 10am-2pm
Blessed Sacrament Church 110 Cedar St. Allegan
All ages and levels of expertise are welcome. Create a piece for yourself, for a friend or for a charity. Contact Claudia at acrasmussen5@gmail.com or (269) 673-4579 for more information.

Rivertown Fitness for All Ages and Families
Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10-11am, Core and More fitness classes for all ages and all levels to improve overall health, strength and well-being will be offered at Rivertown Gym & Fitness, 739 Airway Dr. Allegan. Call Todd at 269 686-7900 or email rivertowngym@gmail.com for additional information.

Scouting: Allegan has a variety of scouting opportunities. Each group is meeting in different ways to stay safe.

Cub Scout Pack 3026: Grades K-5. Call Cub Master Ron Gunter ron.f.gunter@gmail.com

Boy Scouts BSA 91 (boys 11-17 yrs.): Contact Scout Master Rob Keen 269 568-0435, eckeen1112@gmail.com

Girls Troop BSA 191 (girls 11-17): Contact Sara Keen sarajkeen@gmail.com.

Senior Fitness/Fit Over 50: Fun fitness designed for ages 50-80plus!
Hicks Gym, 311 E Plainwell Street, Plainwell. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9am. Drop in or call Sharrin at 269-330-3204 or email at denzgirllc@att.net.

The Fairways:
237 Hubbard St. Allegan (269) 655-5890
Get assistance with accuracy, distance, course management, club selection, or distance control. Work on a simulator, and treat it like a practice session at the course to achieve overall game improvement.

Tilt 118: Ice Cream, Pinball Machines, Food and More
Tilt 118 118 Brady St. Allegan
Pinball Leagues, Pinball Classes, Arcade Rental
Contact: Email: smalltownamusements@gmail.com; Phone: 269 720-8137

NOTE:
This Community Calendar is an opportunity for all organizations in Allegan County to post events. Please, remember to send your event information to editor@alleganews.com.

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TOWNSHIP OF ALLEGAN
2025 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 3037 118th Ave, Allegan, MI 49010 to examine and review the 2025 assessment roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 4, 2025: 12:00 pm (noon) Organizational Meeting
Monday, March 10, 2025: 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm and 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Tuesday, March 11, 2025: 9:00 am – Noon and 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

And on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected and approved.

Letter appeals will be accepted in lieu of appearance and must be received no later than 5:00 pm March 10, 2025. Mailing address is 3037 118th Ave. Allegan, MI 49010.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2025 are as follows:

Agricultural	44.60%	1.1211
Commercial	48.84%	1.0238
Industrial	37.71%	1.3259
Residential	46.33%	1.0792
Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.

Stephen A. Schulz,
Supervisor Allegan Township
Heather Mitchell, Assessor Allegan Township

TOWNSHIP OF CHESHIRE
2025 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 104th Ave & 41st St, Allegan, MI 49010 to examine and review the 2025 assessment roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 4, 2025: 1:30 pm Organizational Meeting
Tuesday, March 11, 2025: 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm and 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Thursday, March 13, 2025: 9:00 am – Noon and 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

And on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected and approved.

Letter appeals will be accepted in lieu of appearance and must be received no later than 5:00 pm March 12, 2025. Mailing address is 817 Windigo Ln. Otsego, MI 49078.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2025 are as follows:

Agricultural	37.16%	1.3455
Commercial	50.42%	1.9917
Industrial	40.40%	1.2376
Residential	44.07%	1.1346
Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.

Steve Revor, Supervisor Cheshire Township
Heather Mitchell, Assessor Cheshire Township

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Biggby Coffee

Engaging with scammers- don't follow my son's lead

MIKE'S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX
■ PUBLISHER ■

I was talking with my son recently, and somehow we got on the topic of these pre-recorded prank calls he used to get. Unlike most of us he enjoys engaging with these pranksters. He know they are fraudsters but gets enjoyment out of carrying on a conversation with them.

It all started with a late-night call, from an Asian man who introduced himself as Fung Lau, and wanted compensation for my son t-boning his vehicle. (Anyone who knows my son, knows he doesn't drive.) My son politely explained that and hung up the phone.

However, "Fung Lau" called back the very next day. Although, in that call, his name wasn't Fung Lau, he didn't have an Asian accent, and he wasn't calling about his car. It was something completely different.

This went on for months. At about 12, 1 a.m., "Fung Lau" would call about some fictional occurrence, or with strange request, and always with a new name and accent.

My son would pick up, and respond to his questions, just to see where it led the conversation. He recorded a few of the more hilarious ones. Here are the transcripts.

CAN I CONNECT TO YOUR WIFI?

Yeah. Hello. This is Rakeesh.

Hello, Rakeesh.

I live in the neighborhood, actually. Could I ask you but one favor?

Sure!

Yeah, listen, my internet is not working right now. So I wanted to just connect to your Wi-Fi. Can you give me the password?

Listen to me Rakeesh…

Don't worry. I'm only going to use it for one day and then my internet will be back up.

I know.

So what?! I have work to do. I can't do work without internet.

You're going to do work at one o'clock in the morning?

Can't you just help me out?

Are you doing work at one o'clock in the morning?

Listen, I have your IP address, okay. So, if you don't give me the password, I will just connect directly to your computer.

That's not how that works.

I work in IT support, so I know how to hack into a computer, okay. You don't want to mess with me, mother yucker!

You don't want to mess with me either, because I work for the Michigan State Police.

Okay, so IP number 78.157.34.50. I'm going to connect to your computer right now

Is that right? Try it with me.

Call disconnects.

YOU PUT A BONE IN MY PIZZA!

Hello

Hello

Yeah, I want to make a complaint about a food experience I have in your store

Sure.

I took a bite into a slice of your pizza… and I chip my tooth on a bone

Ah, I see.

I could have choked on it mother yucker. Since when do you start putting bones in the pizza?

Actually, it's not a regular thing. We did it especially for you.

I want to get compensation for this. Can you deliver to me, two free pizzas for the inconvenience?

Unfortunately, we are closed.

Why don't I just put comments all over the internet saying you put a bone in my pizza? I will have everybody in my call center give you zero stars. Have it your way, mother trucker!

Thank you! Have fun in your self-admitted call center, threatening to hack my internet and harassing me over pizza.

Call disconnects.

CAN I BUY YOUR DOG?

Hello.

Hi. It's Abdu. How are you?

I'm good. How are you?

I live in the neighborhood, actually. I had one important question to ask you. Do you have a second?

Sure.

Yeah, I've seen you walking your dog in the neighborhood. It's always been like the cutest dog I have ever seen in my life. What is their name if you don't mind me asking?

It's Rakeesh.

Are you still with me?

I'm with you.

Listen, I want to buy that dog from you, please. How much would you be willing to sell it to me for?

I don't have a dog.

Look, name your price. I will pay anything. 500? 1000? 1500?

I don't have a dog.

Okay, okay, look, 2000 dollars, final offer.

I don't have a dog.

Speak up. I can't hear you.

I don't have a dog, sir. I can't sell you a dog.

Come on. It's not even worth half that much. Are you stupid?

I don't have a dog.

Okay. Listen to me. You better keep that thing on the leash, or I'm going to come over here and steal it from you. Okay?

I'm going to come over there and report you for these dog and pizza calls.

Call disconnects.

YOUR DOG POOPED ON MY LAWN!

Yeah. Hi there. This is Buck calling. How are you doing?

I'm good. How are you?

I don't think we ever met, actually. I'm your neighbor… Listen, okay. I'll just come to the chase. I'm tired of picking up your dog poop off my lawn.

Well, you see, I don't have a dog.

I've seen you walking the dog, okay. He poo poo all oooover my doorstep and you don't ever pick it up.

I don't have a dog.

What did you say?

I said I don't have a dog.

Don't make excuse with me, okay. Stop being a big liar.

You listen to me. I don't have a dog.

Yesterday, I stepped in a big piece of doo-doo. I spent the whole day cleaning the feces off my shoes.

I'm sure you did.

Don't let it happen again, okay… or there's going to be big trouble for you and your dog.

I don't have a dog.

Calm down, Big Boy!

Hey, listen to me…

I'm going to come leave a big stink right on your doorstep, ok Big Boy?

Hey! Hey! Listen to me…

Okay. I'm coming to knock on the door right now, okay?

Yeah, I'm waiting. I'm right here. Come knock on my door.

45 seconds of silence, then the call disconnects.

Be careful when you pick up your phone and you don't recognize the person on the other end. Fraudsters have dozens of scams. Some involve impersonating police or the IRS. Others want to buy your car or sell you a purebed dog. Be vigilant, and never engage with these people, unless your my son, of course.

Life as Performance Art

G CORWIN STOPPEL

I came to know John Thistle when we played bagpipes in the Fourth Battalion of the West Mosby Volunteers Band. The name came from a tiny village a few miles outside of Mosby, Montana, just in case you are interested, and you probably aren't. He was a good man and a great father.

One summer he and his son bought a 1947 Plymouth which they decided to restore, and most evenings they were out in their garage working on it together. John told me that all his son could think about was how much fun he was going to have once they finished the job and he could slip behind the wheel. He laughed at how his son liked the bench front seat because some day a girlfriend could slide left to ride next to him. If you are one of the Olds who had a car before bucket seats, you know that was the aspiration of a lot of teenagers.

One evening, apparently had listened enough to his son's prattle about his son's chatter about the future. John set down the tool he was using, looked at his son and said, "You know, you're probably having as much fun right now restoring this car as you will ever have driving it. How about focusing on the present and enjoy it?"

Every so often that That suggestion comes back to mind. Most of us, I am sure, are either looking to the past or fantasizing about the future.

Have you ever gone to a high school class reunion? Before long, all of the jocks were recalling their glory days when they were playing sports. The theater nerds were talking about past performances that were either magnificent or an utter failure. Or we would recall the best teacher or worst teacher, school trips, and about other people and events from a by-gone decade.

Now, if it was a 25th reunion, many of our classmates were still working, so their other main topic of conversation were their post-retirement plans, seeing their children off to college, upcoming weddings, their eagerness for seeing new grands, or some other milestone event. Usually these were a few years ahead.

They were like John Jr, but do you see what is missing? It is the present moment. They are seemingly unable to live in the present moment. Much of their life is either in the rear view mirror, or well ahead down the road.

A good friend was seeing a man who enjoyed baseball. A few years back he took her to see the Tigers; she took a book. They broke up because there she was not interested in experiencing something new and different in the moment. He was enjoying the game, but she was lost in a novel. The poor fellow had rotten luck with his social life. It wasn't long before he went out with someone, and that date lasted almost to the end of dinner, and suddenly it was 'check please!" Just before dessert she must have been looking into the future because she started asking about names for babies.

To live in the moment is not easy. Most of us have these silent conversations rattling around in our brain about what we need to do or should do soon. Either that or we are remembering something out of the past. That's natural, normal, and often a good thing. It can also get in the way of the living in the present.

Someone who is really good at being in the moment is the actor William Shatner I understand he is not always the easiest person to be around, but he is perpetually enthusiastic. If he sits down to a meal, even if it is sardines on toast, he will exclaim, "These are the best sardines I've ever had, and get a load of this toast. It's wonderful." Reportedly, he does it all the time.

Another good example comes from the late English author, RF Delderfield. He started his career over a century ago as a reporter for the local paper. His job was to interview the resident who just had a death in the family, take notes, and go back to the office and write the obituary. In his two autobiographies, he wrote at length about this early part of his professional life, how he had to train himself to ask questions and make notes, but not mentally starting the first draft.

Learning how to live in the moment can seem a bit daunting. There is a simple, but often highly unpopular, move you can make. The next time you have a family dinner, whether it is formal or not, at home or in a restaurant. Go from person to person and shake them down for their mobile phones and devices. Trust me, they'll hate you for it. Stay firm, smile, and tell them, "It hurts me more than you, but I am doing it for your own good." Take the phones into another room and close the door, so no one can hear the ringer on their device.

Life will be awkward and unpleasant for a few minutes. Do not give in! Soon, everyone will start talking to each other. They may have such a good time they won't notice the absence of their phones. Why, they will be so engaged with the other guests, they will even let you clean the table, put away the left overs, and wash and dry the dishes and not even think to offer. Consider that an achievement!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Joke I Missed ...

To the editor:

Donald Trump's remaking America has had us confused. The clash of cultures has grown …. we all feel it, neighbors no longer speak to neighbors, aggressive and violent behavior is increasing. And, sadly, the President is out front, attacking persons too numerous to name, organizations, whole government departments, even countries, with nasty speech, threats, and silly personal insults, his strong suit. And lies, lots of lies and distortions.

In MAGA America we can no longer tolerate the concept of fairness. Since when did the concept of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion present an imminent threat to America, such that these words must be struck from all government documents? As our belief in democratic rule and free markets show serious cracks, our adversaries benefit. One of Trump edicts requires Passports be checked M/F or else! Oh, that's nice. No, it's not a joke, MAGA actually believes going back to the 1950s is the way forward. We can adjust course, but reversing history is not possible, nor a good thing.

This isn't just a little white backlash, it's full blown racism, gung-ho into conspiracies, perpetual distortions, and near total disbelief in experts and science. In a world where we're suffocating in pollution and roasting under the sun we're best off with "Drill Baby Drill", do you think? We're banning books, and controlling the release of important government data (our data) on health, economic, demographic issues, etc. It's democracy in reverse, but we're told … "hey, we're transparent, but you don't need to see this".

The Capitol attackers of January 6th must now be regarded as honest, hard-working Patriots, now released onto the streets on a whim, all 1,500 of them were jailed after normal legal processes! If this isn't a powerful signal that our democracy is in serious collapse mode, nothing is.

Here's the joke I missed, I assumed they just wanted to take the reins of our democratic government, but clearly, they want to destroy every vestige of it. It appears a handful of anti-democratic billionaires are now running the takedown; the MAGA crowd is likely unaware they're also a target.

The bizarre election of the fat, orange-haired white boy (two can play his game) accomplished two things: 1) it kept him, a convicted felon, out of jail, 2) it granted his dream job to "seek retribution" against his enemies, of which there will be a never-ending supply, a necessity with dictators. It's all or nothing when you must be king.

It's clear, Trump's never had any interest in governing, just being a big-shot no-nothing (as my Mom, a quiet church going Lutheran would whisper). By placing Elon Musk and his youngsters inside government machinery they control the checkbook. Then, it's easy to say" you're inefficient: … to cut 1,000, 10,000, or 100,000 employees at once (this is efficient?).

Tell the ladies at Emanuel Lutheran Church that the hundreds of blankets they make each year as a part of Lutheran World Relief, and the folks at Blessed Sacrament whose offerings to Catholic Charities that they no longer have help in USAID to distribute aid because they're "inefficient". Even big-bucks Capitalists know that there are financial returns in giving; it's called soft power. Shutting down USAID shows weakness, not strength. I served in the Peace Corps in the 1960s, and had no relationship with USAID. Is USAID always efficient? No. Has it made America a better neighbor? Yes. It represents less than 1% of our federal budget. Having a friend in need can be our best bargain.

Thanks to the journalists at Atlantic Magazine and the yet free press for providing inspiration for these comments. Mr. Trump wants to jail them. I pray our Democracy will not go down quietly.

Jim Kauppi

Hi-speed internet will benefit students and seniors

Editor,

As I get older I become increasingly aware of my "time out of place".

For example, I'm old enough to remember when people could buy eggs just to throw at cars and houses.

I also recall a time when Republican legislators would carry a copy of the Constitution around with them.

They looked so cute, prancing around with their little Constitutions poking out of their pockets as if they knew or cared about what it said.

Days long passed.

On another note, I noticed in last week's Allegan County News that 600 homes in Lee Township will be added to a high speed internet project being undertaken there.

This is will mean a lot to the area as multiple studies have shown that students and seniors benefit scholastically and psychologically from the increased connections to others this will bring.

The article also noted that this would be financed by funds to the township and county through the American Rescue Plan Act.

Omitted was that this was legislation brought to fruition during the Biden administration. And I hope that both entities have the money already on hand as this is the sort of program that would be well in the sights of the Trump administration to cancel.

David Ohmart

The Allegan COUNTY NEWS

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Letter to the Editor

The Takedown of America ...

Dear Editor

Donald Trump's remaking America had us confused. The clash of cultures has grown …. we all feel it, neighbors no longer speak to neighbors, aggressive and violent behavior is increasing. Of course, the President is out front, attacking persons too numerous to name, organizations, whole government departments, our allies, with nasty speech, threats, and silly personal insults, his strong suit. And lies, lots and lots of lies.

In MAGA America we no longer tolerate the concept of fairness. Since when did the concept of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion present an imminent threat to America? That these words must be struck from all government documents? Our belief in democratic rule and free markets shows serious cracks, our adversaries benefit. A Trump edict requires Passports be checked M/F or else! Oh, that's nice. No, it's not a joke, MAGA actually believes going back to the 1950s is the way forward. Reversing history is not possible, probably not a good thing.

This isn't just a little white backlash, it's full-on racism, gung-ho into conspiracies, perpetual distortions, and disbelief in experts and science. In a world where we're suffocating in pollution and roasting under the sun we're best off with "Drill Baby Drill", do you think? We're banning books, and editing the release of government data (our data) on health, economic, demographic issues, etc. It's democracy in reverse, but we're told … "hey, we're transparent, but you don't need to see this".

The Capitol attackers of January 6th must now be regarded as honest, hard-working Patriots, now released onto the streets on a whim, all 1,500 of them were jailed after normal legal processes! If this isn't a powerful signal that our democracy is in serious collapse mode, nothing is.

Here's a joke I missed, I assumed MAGA world wanted to take the reins of our democratic government, but clearly, they want to destroy every vestige of it. A handful of anti-democratic billionaires are now running the takedown; the MAGA crowd is likely unaware they're also a target.

The bizarre election of the serial liar accomplished two things: 1) it kept him, a convicted felon, out of jail, 2) it granted his dream job to "seek retribution" against his enemies, of which there will be a never-ending supply, a necessity with dictators. It's all or nothing when you're king.

It's clear now, Trump's never had any interest in governing, just being a big-shot (a loud mouth, no-nothing as my Mom, a quiet church going lady would say). Putting autistic Elon Musk and his 20 something whiz-kids in charge of the country's checkbook was easy, selective service workers are inefficient … we're cutting 1,000, 10,000, or 100,000, why not 10 million employees at once? In fact, it's absolutely lawless, and his "blue blood" party legislators have gone speechless. Laying off managerial employees is brilliant, it ensures total collapse as they're the ones who know how to cut cost.

Tell the ladies at Emanuel Lutheran, the hundreds of blankets they make each year for Lutheran World Relief, and the folks at Blessed Sacrament whose offerings to Catholic Charities that USAID can no longer distribute their gifts. To the seasonal Parks and Forestry workers in the U.P. that they won't be needed, the Parks can manage themselves. Even big-bucks Capitalists know there's financial returns in giving; it's called soft power. Shutting down USAID shows American weakness, not strength.

I served in the Peace Corps in the 1960s, no relationship with USAID. But is USAID always efficient? No. Has it made America a better neighbor? Yes. It represents less than 1% of our federal budget. Having helped friends in need can be our best bargain.

Thanks to the journalists at Atlantic Magazine and the yet free press for providing inspiration for these comments. Mr. Trump wants to jail them. I pray our Democracy will not go down quietly.

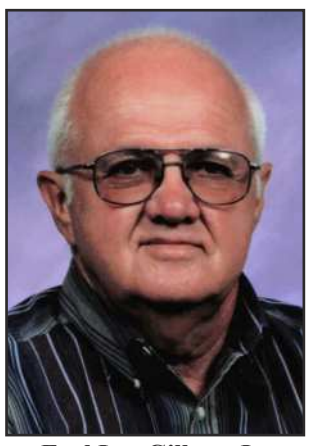
Jim Kauppi
Allegan

Obituaries

Earl Lee Gillette Jr., 86

Earl Lee Gillette Jr. (86) passed away February 9 at 12:15am. He passed away peacefully with his wife by his side.

Earl was born and raised in Allegan, Mi. He married Patricia Lodge in 1957 and went on to have 3 boys. Earl worked as a machinist at Rockwell International for 30 years. Earl also worked for the Votech center providing transportation for participants in the Work First program and retired here after 10 years. Earl put a smile on so many people's faces, and he cared deeply for his community. He always had a playful sense of humor. Earl was also a wood maker and built many different things throughout his life. Earl was a godly man and a church elder. He volunteered at the church in many ways, including helping out at the food pantry, mowing the church lawn, dressing up as Santa Claus and even building a life size nativity scene. Fishing was Earl's favorite pastime. He found much joy and peace in his fishing boat. He fed at least 200+ people at Christ Community Church's Fish Fries. He was given the nickname "fish whisperer" by his great grandchildren.



Earl Lee Gillette Jr.

While fishing at Bear Lake in Bloomingdale in the late 60s Earl witnessed a small plane go down in the lake. After hearing yells for help Earl did not hesitate. He quickly turned his boat around from the shoreline to pull a woman from the water. The two on board both survived with Earl's quick action.

Earl also participated in the Million Man March in the early 2000s. This march supported men in growing their faith and becoming more present, godly fathers and husbands.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia Gillette, his three sons, Scott(Sandra) Gillette, Joel Gillette, Kurt Gillette, his 6 grandchildren Jennifer(Dan) Einfeld, Matthew(Sarah) Gillette, Brooke(Kyle) Hunsbereger, Dustin Gillette, Brittany(Michael) Peters, Kyle Gillette, 17 Great Grandchildren, Aviela Einfeld, Asher Einfeld, Azalea Einfeld, Alliot Einfeld, Abriella Einfeld, Amelia Einfeld, Dyllan Gillette, Liah Gillette, Lillian Hunsberger, Amelia Hunsberger, Matilda Hunsberger, Elliana Hunsberger, Hunter Gillette, Colton Gillette, Madison Gillette, Allison Peters, Bradley Peters, his sister, Zea Gillette, brother Steven Gillette and many nephews and nieces.

Preceded in death are his parents Earl and Evelyn Gillette, his brother David Gillette and his grandson Justin Gillette.

Earl's Memorial Service will start at 11:00 am with an hour visitation beforehand on Friday, February 21, in the Christ Community Church located at 3370 113th Ave, Allegan, MI 49010.

In lieu of flowers the family kindly asks for donations to Centrica Hospice or St. Judes Children's Hospital in honor of Earl.

Diane Kathline (Evans) Dietrich, 74

Diane Kathline (Evans) Dietrich passed peacefully in Kalamazoo, Michigan, with family by her side. Diane was born in Allegan, Michigan to her late parents Robert and Marcelle (Ruhele) Evans on July 31, 1950. After high school Diane would work many jobs and eventually become a successful Realtor in Allegan County for many years. She met the love of her life George Diethrich and cherished 54 faithful years of marriage together before his passing. Diane had an adventures heart and would spend all her time outside of family with her horses. Horseback riding, running trails, and being in the barn with her animals made everything better. She is missed dearly and leaves behind many fond memories with everyone who knew her.

Diane Kathline (Evans) Dietrich

She is survived by her siblings Gary (Laura) Evans, Kay Floria, and Ellen Bumpus.

She is preceded in death by her parents and husband.

Her ashes will be laid to rest at a later time in Oakwood Cemetery Allegan.

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Hopkins Township
2025 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 128 S Franklin St, Hopkins, MI 49328 to examine and review the 2025 assessment roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 4, 2025:
1:00pm Organizational Meeting
Monday, March 10, 2025:
2:00pm to 5:00pm & 6:00pm to 9:00pm
Tuesday, March 11, 2025:
9:00am to Noon & 1:00pm to 4:00pm

And on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected and approved.

Letter appeals will be accepted in lieu of appearance and must be received no later than 5:00pm March 11, 2025. Mailing address is PO Box 217, Hopkins, MI 49328.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2025 are as follows:

Agricultural	40.53%	1.23365
Commercial	47.49%	1.05285
Industrial	47.40%	1.05485
Residential	45.80%	1.09170
Developmental	48.20%	1.03734
Personal Property	50.00%	1.00000

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.

Cade Bolser, Hopkins Township Supervisor
Grey Castello, Hopkins Township Assessor

CITY OF WAYLAND
2025 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the City Hall, 103 S Main St, Waland, MI 49348 to examine and review the 2025 assessment roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 4, 2025:
10:00am Organizational Meeting
Monday, March 10, 2025:
9:00am to Noon & 1:00pm to 4:00pm
Wednesday, March 12, 2025:
2:00pm to 5:00pm & 6:00pm to 9:00pm

And on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected and approved.

Letter appeals will be accepted in lieu of appearance and must be received no later than 5:00pm March 11, 2025. Mailing address is 103 S. Main St., Wayland, MI 49348.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2025 are as follows:

Agricultural	NC	NC
Commercial	50.11%	0.99780
Industrial	41.39%	1.20802
Residential	44.77%	1.11682
Personal Property	50.00%	1.00000

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.

Erik Wilson, Wayland City Manager
Grey Castello, Wayland City Assessor

LEIGHTON TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC NOTICE

To the Residents and Taxpayers of Leighton Township, Allegan County, Michigan and affected Taxing Units.

NOTICE OF HEARING
TO CONSIDER THE INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES
TAX EXEMPTION REQUEST OF
RHINO SEED & LANDSCAPE SUPPLY, LLC

Please take notice that the Township Board of Leighton Township has received a request for Rhino Seed & Landscape Supply, LLC for an Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption Certificate on the property located at 1113 Electric Avenue, Wayland, MI 49348, more fully described as Permanent Parcel Number 0313-216-027-00.

Take further notice that the Township Board will meet at the Township Hall, 4451 12th St., Wayland, Michigan on Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. for a public hearing on the proposed Tax Exemption Certificate.

Inquiries regarding the above matter may be made by calling the Township Clerk at 616-891-8238

Rachel Fennema
Leighton Township Clerk

TOWNSHIP OF CLYDE
ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

The Township of Clyde Board of Review will meet Monday March 10, 2025, from 3:00pm-9:00pm and Tuesday March 11, 2025, 9:00am-12:00pm and 1:00pm- 4:00pm at the Clyde Township Hall, 1679 56th Street, Fennville Michigan.

Written petitions may also be sent to the Board of Review at 2386 58th Street, Fennville Michigan 49408. Property owners or their representatives must contest at the local board of review if they intend to appeal to the Michigan Tax Tribunal.

Ratio of State Equalized Value to True Cash Value: 50%

	Multiplier	Ratio
Agricultural	1.09721	45.57
Commercial	1.00766	49.62
Residential	1.22130	40.94
Development	NC	NC
Personal	1.0000	50.00
Industrial	1.01235	49.39

Tommie L. Giles
Clyde Township Supervisor
269-561-5214

CHESHIRE TOWNSHIP
ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS ON ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENTS AND SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT APPLICATIONS AT MARCH 10, 2025 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHESHIRE, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE the Cheshire Township Planning Commission¬ will hold public hearings at a meeting on March 10, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Cheshire Township Hall located at 471 41st Street, just north of 104th Avenue in Cheshire Township. The items to be considered at these public hearings/meeting include, in brief, the following:

1. The Township-initiated proposed amendment of certain provisions of Section 13.7 Item 14 of the Cheshire Township Zoning Ordinance pertaining to the special land use permit approval standards for a Wireless Communications Support Structure (measurement of "separation" requirements from off-site residential uses, and from designated areas).

2. The application of Fred Low-Chaille Consultants OBA Horvath Towers for special land use permit approval of a proposed Wireless Communications Support Structure with a total height of 199' on the premises commonly known as 4461 104th Avenue (parcel nos. 03-020-012-00 and 03-020-012-10). The subject property is zoned R-1 Rural Residential District, within which "Wireless Communications Support Structure" is designated as a special land use pursuant to Section 5.3.6 of the Cheshire Township Zoning Ordinance. The Planning Commission will consider this request pursuant to the approval criteria/standards specified in Sections 13.3 and 13.7 (Item 14) of the Zoning Ordinance, including the proposed amendments to parts of those approval criteria addressed in paragraph 1 of this Notice. Any approval of the special land use permit will be subject to approval and adoption by the Township Board of the proposed zoning text amendments. Note: if the special land use permit is approved, conditionally, the Planning Commission may also consider for conditional approval the related site plan pursuant to the criteria for site plan approval specified in Section 14.6 of the Zoning Ordinance.

3. The Township-initiated proposed amendment of the term "recreational vehicle campground" as defined in Section 3.1.61 of the Cheshire Township Zoning Ordinance to the new term "recreational campground" and to allow within that term certain types of camping units such as tents and portable cabins, as well as recreational vehicles. Section 5.3.22 and Section 6.3.9 of the Zoning Ordinance pertaining to the designated special land uses in the R-1 Rural Residential District and R-2 Residential District, respectively, are therefore similarly proposed to be amended to change the existing term "recreational vehicle campground" to the proposed new term "recreational campground".

4. The application of Brandyn Deckinga on behalf of Lagom Properties, LLC for special land use permit approval of a proposed recreational campground on a parcel of approximately 13.4 acres on "Little Eagle Lake" easterly of 40th Street in the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of land section 34 (parcel no. 03-034-007-00). The subject property is zoned R-1 Rural Residential District, within which "Recreational Vehicle Campground" is designated as a special land use pursuant to Section 5.3.22 of the Cheshire Township Zoning Ordinance. The Planning Commission will consider this request pursuant to the approval criteria/standards specified in Section 13.3 of the Zoning Ordinance, and the proposed amendment of the existing definition for the term "Recreational Vehicle Campground" as addressed in paragraph 3 of this Notice. Any Planning Commission approval of the special land use permit will be subject to approval and adoption by the Township Board of the related proposed zoning text amendments. Note: if the special land use permit is approved, conditionally, the Planning Commission may also consider for conditional approval the related site plan pursuant to the criteria for site plan approval specified in Section 14.6 of the Zoning Ordinance.

5. Such other and further matters as may properly come before the Planning Commission at this public hearing/meeting.

Written comments concerning the above matter(s) may be submitted to the Chairperson of the Cheshire Township Planning Commission, or to the Clerk of Cheshire Township, at any time prior to the public hearing/meeting, and may further be submitted to the Planning Commission at the public hearing/meeting.

The applications for the special land use matters, the Tentative Text of the proposed Zoning Ordinance text amendments, and the existing Cheshire Township Zoning Ordinance/Map/Master Plan, may be examined from and after the publication of this Notice and until and including the day of the public hearing/meeting by contacting the Township Clerk or the Chairperson of the Planning Commission, and may also be examined at the public hearing/meeting.

Cheshire Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services at the meeting/hearing to individuals with disabilities, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered, upon reasonable notice to the Township. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Township Clerk.

Jodi Pinnell, Clerk
Cheshire Township
1061 37th Street
Allegan, MI 49010
(269) 217-4942

Steve Blankenship, Chairperson
Cheshire Township Planning Commission
4785 Baseline Road
Grand Junction, MI 49056
(269) 521-4028

TOWNSHIP OF TROWBRIDGE
2025 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 913 S M-40 Hwy, Allegan, MI 49010 to examine and review the 2025 assessment roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 4, 2025: 3:00 pm Organizational Meeting
Monday, March 10, 2025: 9:00 am to Noon and 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Tuesday, March 11, 2025: 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm and 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

And on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected and approved.

Letter appeals will be accepted in lieu of appearance and must be received no later than 5:00 pm March 10, 2025. Mailing address is 913 S M-40 Hwy Allegan, MI 49010.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2025 are as follows:

Agricultural	38.84%	1.2873
Commercial	49.65%	1.0070
Industrial	43.66%	1.1452
Residential	42.82%	1.1677
Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.

Jeff Kaylor, Supervisor Trowbridge Township
Heather Mitchell, Assessor Trowbridge Township

Leighton Township

February 6, 2025 7:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting Synopsis

1. Call to order & Pledge of Allegiance - 7:02 p.m.
2. Present: Wolbrink, Fennema, Bonnema, Hooker, Bultsma
3. Approved minutes from 01/9/25, 2/4/25 & meeting agenda
4. Report from Fire Dept, Bldg Inspector, Deputy, ZBA
5. No Public Comment
6. Approved contracts for lawn care services & dust control for 2025
7. Approved Salary Resolutions 2025-02-06-09 for Twp Board
8. Set budget public hearing date for 3/13/25 at 6 pm
9. Approved listed bills in the amount of $33,782.39
10. No Public Comment
11. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

OVERISEL TOWNSHIP

PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING

The Overisel Township Board will hold a public hearing on the Proposed Budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year at the Township Hall on March 11, 2025 following the regular meeting starting at 7:30pm, with a Special Meeting following to approve the budget.

THE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE PROPOSED TO BE LEVIED TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE A SUBJECT OF THIS HEARING.

A copy of the budget is available at the township at A-4307 144th Ave. Any one needing auxiliary aids contact the township.

Lori Scholten, Clerk 269-751-7030

PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Allegan (City) operates an Industrial Pretreatment Program as required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. This program is intended to control the discharges from industrial users to the Allegan Wastewater Treatment Plant to prevent plant upset, pass through of pollutants to the Kalamazoo River, contamination of residual solids and for other reasons. In accordance with 40 CFR 403.8 (f) (2) (vii) the City is hereby listing those industrial users which had been in significant noncompliance with the applicable pretreatment requirements during the period of January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. All companies listed are currently in compliance or on a compliance schedule to correct any deficiencies. The publication of these names is to satisfy the requirements of the above referenced regulation:

Perrigo Co.

CITY OF FENNVILLE

2025 BOARD OF REVIEW NOTICE
Assessor's Office
City of Fennville
125 S Maple St
Fennville, MI 49408

BOARD OF REVIEW MEETING SCHEDULE
The City of Fennville BOARD OF REVIEW for 2025 will be held at the Fennville City Hall, 125 S Maple St, Fennville, Michigan on the following dates and times:

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING: (No appeals will be heard at this meeting)
Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 11:00 a.m.

APPEAL HEARINGS:
Monday, March 10, 2025 from 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (Closed 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.)
Tuesday, March 11, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Closed Noon - 1 p.m.)

*PLEASE NOTE—Appointments are encouraged for the Board of Review meetings. To schedule an appointment call Kelly Jellison at 269-591-0289 or email kelly@assessingsolutions.com. A resident may protest to the Board of Review by letter. Letter appeals are to be accompanied by a completed Board of Review petition form (form L-4035). All letters of protest must be received by 5:00 p.m., Thursday March 6, 2025.

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2025 are as follows:

Agriculture……NC……NC
Commercial……46.87……1.06678
Industrial……45.81……1.09146
Residential…… 44.00……1.13636
Personal Property…. 50.00…....1.0000

Assessor Contact Information
Kelly Jellison
City of Fennville Assessor
Dated: February 6, 2025
(269) 591-0289
kelly@assessingsolutions.com

GUN PLAIN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

2025 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 381 8th Street, Plainwell, MI 49080 to examine and review the 2025 assessment roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 4, 2025: 9:00 am Organizational Meeting
Monday, March 10, 2025: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Wednesday, March 12, 2025: 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm

And on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected and approved.

Letter appeals will be accepted in lieu of appearance and must be received no later than 5:00 pm March 11, 2025. Mailing address is 381 8th St., Plainwell, MI 49080.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2025 are as follows:

Agricultural	41.56%	1.2030
Commercial	45.77%	1.0924
Industrial	44.30%	1.1287
Residential	45.08%	1.1091
Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.

Michael VanDenBerg,
Supervisor Gun Plain Charter Township
Heather Mitchell,
Assessor Gun Plain Charter Township

WAYLAND TOWNSHIP

2025 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 1060 129th Ave., Shelbyville, MI 49344 to examine and review the 2025 assessment roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 4, 2025: 10:30 am Organizational Meeting
Monday, March 10, 2025: 2:00 pm 5:00pm and 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Tuesday, March 11, 2025: 9:00 am to Noon
Thursday, March 13, 2025: 9:00 am to Noon

And on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected and approved.

Letter appeals will be accepted in lieu of appearance and must be received no later than 5:00 pm March 11, 2025. Mailing address is PO Box 1, Bradley, MI 49311.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2025 are as follows:

Agricultural	42.21%	1.1845
Commercial	44.79%	1.1163
Industrial	48.48%	1.0314
Residential	47.96%	1.0425
Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.

Roger VanVolkinburg, Supervisor Wayland Twp
Heather Mitchell, Assessor Wayland Township

Wayland Township Board Meetings are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, sex or disability.

DORR TOWNSHIP

NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW HEARINGS

The Board of Review will be meeting in March to review the Assessment Roll and hear appeals. All meetings will be held at the Dorr Township Hall, 4196 18th Street, Dorr, Michigan 49323. The hearings will begin on March 10, 2025. HEARINGS ARE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. Please call Dorr Township Office Manager, Vicki Fifelski at 616-681-9874 ext. 105 for available appointments.

If the times available are not convenient, you may appeal by letter. Send letters to Dorr Township, 4196 18th Street, Dorr, MI 49323. All letters must be received by 5:00 p.m. 3-10-2025.

Monday March 10th
9:00 am to 12:00pm 1 pm to 4 pm
Tuesday March 11th
2:00 pm to 5:00 pm 6 pm to 9:00 pm

Assessments have been adjusted to result in anticipated multipliers of 1.0000 for all classes. With "Proposal A" in effect, the Taxable Values, excluding new construction and ownership transfers, are capped at the inflation rate of 5% for the 2025 tax year. Taxes are based on Taxable Value. Also, note that if you should have a Principal Residence Exemption on your property and this is not noted on your notice, you should contact the Assessor.

2025 Starting Ratios are as follows:		Factors:	
Ag:	43.48	Ag:	1.1499
Com:	48.55	com:	1.0298
Ind:	47.89	Ind:	1.0440
Res:	45.19	Res:	1.1064

Michael Richmond
Dorr Township Assessor

TOWNSHIP OF SALEM

2025 NOTICE OF BOARD OF REVIEW

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 3003 142nd Ave. Burnips, MI 49314 to examine and review the 2025 assessment roll. The board will convene on the following dates for the hearing of appeals of assessments or taxable values, poverty exemptions, parcel classification appeals and/or current year qualified agricultural denials:

Tuesday, March 4, 2025: 4:30 pm Organizational Meeting
Monday, March 10, 2025: 9:00 am to Noon and 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Tuesday, March 11, 2025: 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Wednesday, March 12, 2025: 9:00 am – Noon

And on such additional days as required to hear all persons who have given notice of the desire to be heard until assessment rolls have been revised, corrected and approved.

Letter appeals will be accepted in lieu of appearance and must be received no later than 5:00 pm March 11, 2025. Mailing address is P.O. Box 49 Burnips, MI 49314.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers for 2025 are as follows:

Agricultural	39.68%	1.2601
Commercial	45.60%	1.0965
Industrial	45.37%	1.1021
Residential	46.01%	1.0867
Personal Property	50.00%	1.0000

Tentative equalization factor of 1.0000 for all classes is expected after completion of Board of Review.

Jim Pitsch, Supervisor Salem Township
Heather Mitchell, Assessor Salem Township

NOTICE

Valley Township
2025 Board of Review

The Valley Township Board of Review will be held at the Valley Township Hall, 2054 N. M-40, Allegan, MI 49010, on the following dates:

Tuesday, March 4,
11 AM – Organizational Meeting only
Tuesday, March 11,
9 AM to 12 PM and 1 PM to 4 PM – Appeal Hearing
Friday, March 14,
1 PM to 4 PM and 6 PM to 9 PM – Appeal Hearing

The Board of Review will meet as many more days as deemed necessary to hear questions, protests, and to equalize the 2025 assessments. Letters are accepted as appeal, provided they are received prior to the final appeal hearing. Send letter to the Valley Township Board of Review, 2054 N. M-40, Allegan, MI 49010.

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2025 as provided by the Allegan County Equalization Department are as follows:

Agricultural	44.41%	1.12587
Commercial	51.49%	0.97106
Industrial	49.16%	1.00000
Residential	45.93%	1.08861
Personal Property	50.00%	1.00000

State Equalized Value (SEV) represents 50% of the True Cash Value of the property. Taxable Value (TV) is the lower of the SEV or the 2024 TV multiplied by the Inflation Rate Multiplier (1.031). Transfers of ownership in 2024 will cause the cap in taxable value to be removed, making the taxable value equal to the SEV for 2025.

Mike Krcatovich
Valley Township Supervisor

Krista Simmons
Valley Township Assessor

Plainwell Robotics team qualifies for state finals

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

JENISON—Earlier this season, the Koala Bots—a robotics team from Plainwell's Cooper Elementary School—qualified for the Michigan Elementary School IQ Championship.

Now they'll have some company, as a second Plainwell Robotics club team has qualified for the championship tournament.

Taking part in the elementary school tournament at Jenison High School on Saturday, Feb. 15, the Gear Slayerz—also from Cooper Elementary—earned the Create Award. And as a reward, the team will join the Koala Bots at the championship event.

The Michigan State Elementary School IQ Championship is scheduled to take place in Monroe on Saturday, March 8.

The Create Award "recognizes a creative engineering design solution to one or more of the challenges of the competition."

The Gear Slayerz—which consists of team members Aiden DeYoung, Alex Gruizenga, Noah Johnson and Carter Palme along with coaches Bryan Gruizenga and Justin Palme—finished the qualifying matches in 30th place in the 48-team field. The team then excelled in the final round, placing sixth.

The Koala Bots also competed at Jenison.

The team of Adelyn Bilski, Aiden Cornelius, Grayson Davies and Pearl Morse finished the qualifying matches in 22th place. The Koala Bots placed 13th in the final round.

The team is coached by John Morse, Craig Davies and Adam Cornelius.

Members of the Gear Slayerz are (from left) Aiden DeYoung, Carter Palme and Alex Gruizenga. Not pictured is Noah Johnson. (Photo provided)

eSports ■ *from Page A1*

develop skills like teamwork, strategy and problem-solving," Badiner said. "Otsego has a very diverse population of students. However, the extra-curricular activities we offer tend to be pretty traditional: athletics and music.

"There is a large group of students who want to be part of a team, who want to feel like they are part of something, but aren't because they aren't athletic, can't sing or don't play an instrument. This team provides another avenue for students to participate.

"There are kids on this team who have never had the opportunity to represent their school or to wear an Otsego jersey, and they are so excited to have this chance. It's so important for our kids to feel like they belong."

After a survey to gauge interest in the club resulted in more than 50 students indicating a desire to learn more, Badiner took the idea to Otsego Public Schools superintendent Jeff Haase for final approval.

As Badiner educated herself on how the club would function and what would be needed from a technology standpoint, she received some welcome news: The Otsego Public Schools Foundation wanted to make a significant financial donation to the club.

"The Otsego Public Schools Foundation informed us they were going to buy new gaming PCs and monitors," Badiner said. "This was unexpected, but excellent news."

As for where the equipment would be located, a solution presented itself in the form of the school's robotics club recently vacating a classroom in the high school.

"I am so thankful for the support of our building and district administration, the Otsego School Board, the Otsego Public Schools Foundation, and the true underdogs, our technology department, for all the extra hours they spent making this happen," Badiner said.

After working through the logistics of starting the club, a meeting was held to provide more information. About 20 students came for this meeting, with that number dropping to the current 11 members after rules and expectations were discussed.

"I can't say for certain, but I think there were some misconceptions about what an esports team really is," Badiner said. "I believe there were students who thought this would just be a club where they could drop in and play a few games with friends whenever they felt like it.

"When they learned that they would be expected to attend practice days and game days; that there would be varsity and JV-level teams; and hat we would follow league guidelines regarding academic eligibility and attendance, only the truly committed students remained."

Those students will play a total of six regular-season matches.

Following the match with Loy Norrix, the Otsego team was slated to take on Cassopolis on Feb. 19. The remaining matches will be against Comstock, Gull Lake, River Valley and Portage Central.

They're in Good Hands Here

From puppies and kittens to senior pets, our caring and experienced team is here to provide your pet with the very best care and a compassionate touch.

Dr. Shanna Jack
Dr. Chris Buckley
and welcoming
Dr. Melinda Kelley

Bluegrass Animal Clinic
Accepting New Patients

Bluegrass Animal Clinic
594 10th St, Plainwell
(269) 685-5894
New Extended Hours
8:30am-1pm, 2pm-5:30pm M-F

NOTICE

OTSEGO TOWNSHIP
Allegan County – Michigan
2025 March Board of Review
Meeting Dates

Tuesday: March 4, 2025, Organizational Meeting, No Hearings 11:00AM

Wednesday: March 12, 2025, 2:00PM – 5:00PM
6:00PM – 9:00PM

Thursday: March 13, 2025, 9:00AM – 12:00PM
1:00PM – 4:00PM

Other meetings as necessary. All reviews will be appointment. Call (269) 694-9434 to schedule appt. Reviews will be held at the Otsego Township Hall 400 North 16th Avenue, Otsego MI 49078. Written appeals will be accepted until 12:00PM Thursday March 13, 2025.

The Allegan County Equalization Initial Factors & Ratios for the Otsego Township will be as follows:

Agricultural:	1.2222	40.91
Commercial:	1.0269	48.69
Industrial:	1.2186	41.03
Residential:	1.1238	44.49

Due to assessment changes Otsego Township anticipates that all ending factors will be 1.0000

Assessor: Lydia Paille
Township Clerk: Jen Colin
Dated: February 17, 2025

SUMMARY

Otsego Township
February 10, 2025

The regular meeting of the Otsego Township Board was held on Monday, February 10, 2025, at the Otsego Township Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Supervisor Winn.

Members Present: Gudith, Colin, Bumgart, Winn.

Members Absent: Burns, Moll, Lunarde-Alexander.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Approved minutes from the January 13th meeting.

Approved bills in the amount of $87,782.42.

Rescinded the motion made in December for the supervisor to take an unpaid sabbatical.

Approved for the Otsego Fire Department to sell the 14-60 large rescue.

Approved supervisor Winn to sign a 3yr contract with New Life Property Care with year one starting at $1750 per mow and a 3% increase per year for the duration of the contract.

Appointed Tom Dutton, Harold Immekus and Neil Browne to Board of Review.

Approved Alternate Start Date Resolution for Board of Review.

Approved fireworks permit application for Captain Boom Fireworks LLC.

Approved work order for dust control.

Approved annual service agreement with Corrpro for the cathodic protection corrosion control system.

Approved supervisor salary resolution at $24,720.00.

Approved treasurer salary resolution at $33,840.15.

Approved clerk salary resolution at $54,075.00.

Approved trustee salary resolution at $2829.04.

Approved proposal from Prein&Newhof for the water reliability study.

Tabled GIS online mapping of water and sewer system until March.

Tabled EMC Insurance proposal until March.

Approved amended employee policy.

Adjourned the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

Submitted by: Jen Colin,
Otsego Township Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF OTSEGO
BOARD OF REVIEW

The City of Otsego Board of Review will meet Tuesday, March 11, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.; and Wednesday, March 12, 2025 from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at the Otsego City Hall, 117 East Orleans Street, Otsego, Michigan. The Board will also meet Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. for organizational purposes only. Written protests must be received before 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 12, 2025. If you wish to meet in person, please call (269) 692-3391 to schedule an appointment. Protest at the Board of Review is necessary to protect your right to further appeals to the Michigan Tax Tribunal for valuation and exemption appeals and/or the State Tax Commission for classification appeals. Properties classified Commercial Real, Industrial Real or Developmental Real may be appealed to the regular March Board of Review or to the Michigan Tax Tribunal prior to May 31, 2025. Commercial Personal, Industrial Personal, or Utility Personal Property may be appealed to the regular March Board of Review or to the Michigan Tax Tribunal prior to May 31, 2025, if a personal property statement was filed with the local unit prior to the commencement of the Board of Review as provided by MCL 211.19.

Poverty Tax Exemption Applications are also available to those meeting Federal Poverty Guidelines.

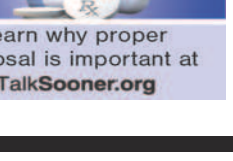
The tentative Allegan County Equalization ratios and estimated multipliers for each class of real and personal property for 2025 are as follows:

CLASSIFICATION	RATIO	MULTIPLIER	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
Commercial	48.47%	1.0316	3.16%
Industrial	50.38%	0.9925	-0.75%
Residential	43.64%	1.1457	14.57%
Personal	50.00%	1.0000	0.00%

The City will provide necessary reasonable services to individuals with disabilities at the Board of Review meetings upon a five day notice.

Angela M. Cronen
City Clerk

All Allegan County police departments have medication and syringe disposal.



Learn why proper disposal is important at TalkSooner.org

NOTICE

TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF PLAINWELL
BOARD OF REVIEW
MARCH 2025

Tuesday, March 04, 2025 - 9:30am — Organizational meeting (no hearings)
LOCATION: Plainwell City Hall Conference Room
211 N. Main St.
Plainwell, MI 49080

Monday, March 10, 2025 - 1:00pm to 4:00pm and 5:00pm to 8:00pm
Tuesday, March 11, 2025 - 9:00am to 12:00pm and 2:00pm to 7:00pm
LOCATION: Plainwell Department of Public Safety
119 Island Ave.
Plainwell, MI 49080

The Board will meet on the dates and times stated above for the purpose of hearing appeals to the 2025 assessments.

Hearings are by appointment. To make an appointment, call (269) 685-6821 Monday through Friday from 8:00am - 4:00pm.

Beginning Ratios and factors are:

Commercial Ratio	42.07%	Factor:	1.1887
Industrial Ratio	38.26%	Factor:	1.3068
Residential Ratio	45.26%	Factor:	1.1047

Michael Richmond, Assessor
City of Plainwell

B SECTION
The Allegan County News & Union Enterprise
SPORTS
First Place 2012 NNA Better Newspaper Contest Award-winning Newspaper Best Sports Column
Thursday, Feb. 20, 2025

Allegan had seven wrestlers qualify for the Division 3 Individual State Finals. (Photo provided)

Eight Martin wrestlers qualified for the Division 4 Individual State Finals. (Photo provided)

Allegan Co. wrestlers qualify for individual State Finals

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

When the Individual Wresting State Finals get underway at Ford Field on Friday, Feb. 28, Allegan County will be well-represented.

A total of 36 local grapplers punched their tickets to the Finals by virtue of finishing in the top four of their respective weight classes at individual regionals on Saturday, Feb. 15.

Martin led the charge with eight state qualifiers, followed by Allegan with seven. Hamilton and Plainwell are each sending six; Hopkins is sending four; Otsego is sending three; and Wayland is sending two.

Of Martin's eight qualifiers, two claimed regional championships at the Division 4 tournament hosted by the Clippers: Haylen Buell at 144 pounds and Logan Gilbert at 120 pounds.

Three other Clippers—Urijah Joostberns at 113, Jack Bagwell at 157 and Sam Bleeker at 215—were runner-up.

Cole Reitz (132) and Jayce Ritchie (138) earned third-place finishes, while Jakub Tomyslak (165) was fourth.

Rysten Williams secured the one regional championship for Allegan, which competed in the Division 3 tournament at Olivet. Williams competed at 175.

Treydan VanderKooi (144) and Ryan Sparks (157) were third for the Tigers, while Jacob Collier (106), Sullivan Morgan (113), Luke Wedge (138) and Landon Fance-Coulson were fourth.

"It was a big day for us," Allegan coach Chase Beard said. "We brought 13 wrestlers, seven of which punched their tickets to the Individual State Finals.

"What stood out to me was Sully Morgan becoming the first freshman State Qualifier for Allegan since 2014. Additionally, Luke Wedge and Landon Coulson are only in their second year of wrestling and have become great enough in such a short time to make it to the Finals."

Hopkins joined Allegan at the Olivet regional and came away with two regional titles among its four qualifiers: Luke Klinge at 120 and Cooper Anderson at 132.

Wyatt Runkel (113) and Caden Brown (144) were each second for the Vikings.

Hamilton, Plainwell, Otsego and Wayland were among the participants at the Division 2 regional at Gull Lake High School.

Plainwell was guaranteed a regional title at 106, as Tyler Cooper and Dylan Nieuwenhuis both made it to the finals representing the Trojans. Cooper prevailed via pin in the second period to take the title.

Austin Gyorkos (138) and Adin Young (285) joined Cooper in winning a regional championship, while Rickey Lynch was third at 157 and Marco Vega was fourth at 150.

Like Plainwell, Hamilton had three wrestlers finish in first place: Bryce Morrison (144), Jacob Chase (157) and Shane Dams (215).

Chase Morrison and Malachi Kapenga finished second at 120 and 138, respectively, while Tyler Block was third at 175.

"I anticipated these six wrestlers would qualify for state," Hamilton coach Trenton Holyfield said. "This is the most state qualifiers Hamilton has had in a very long time.

"The three wrestlers who won their regional set themselves up very nicely for a great run at the state tournament. Although, I believe all of our wrestlers could find themselves placing at the tournament. It's a fun weekend full of emotion and we're excited to part of it."

For Otsego, Lane Blanchard (157) and Kole Engleright (190) secured runner-up showings, with Zeke Andrina (126) placing fourth.

Lane Button won a regional title for Wayland at 150. He'll be joined at Ford Field by teammate Trent Sikkema, who was third at 190.

Allegan claims first regional championship since 2016

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

CONSTANTINE—The drought is over for the Allegan boys wrestling team.

Nearly a decade after their last appearance in the state quarterfinals, the Tigers are state-bound once again thanks to a 65-18 win over Dowagiac in a Division 3 regional final on Wednesday, Feb. 12.

Allegan earned its place in the regional championship match with a tough 33-30 victory over host Constantine in the semifinals.

The last time the Tigers advanced to the state level was in 2016, when they dropped a decision to Goodrich in a Division 2 quarterfinal showdown.

"Our buys did a fantastic job managing team points," Allegan coach Chase Beard said. "It's a great feeling to win team regionals for the first time since 2016."

The match with Dowagiac was never in any real doubt. Allegan won the first six weight classes via pin to take a quick 36-0 lead.

Treydan VanderKooi (144 pounds), Landon Fance-Coulson (150), Aiden Pearce (157), Ryan Sparks (165), Rysten Williams (175) and Dylan Ritsema (190) accounted for the pins.

Dowagiac took three of the next four matches to make it 36-18, but Allegan won the final four matches to pull away.

Jacob Collier (106), Cooper Prentice (120) and Cesar Mendoza (132) all collected pins for the Tigers, with Luke Wedge earning a 19-3 tech fall at 138.

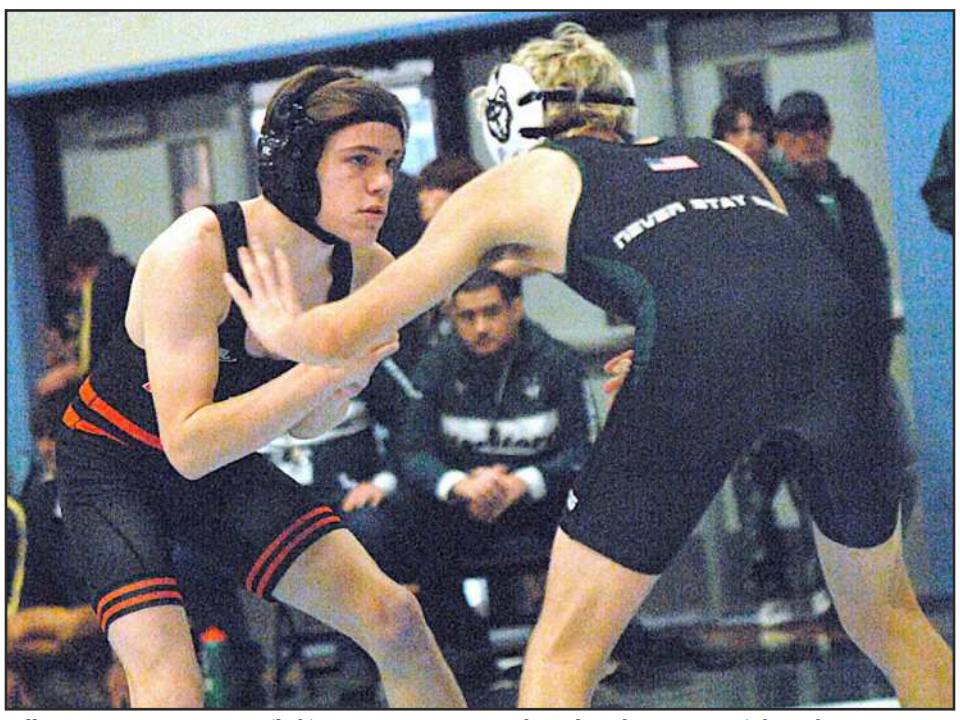
Getting to the regional finals was no easy task, as the Tigers found themselves trailing 24-21 through 10 weight classes in the semis with Constantine.

But the Tigers responded with three straight wins: a 20-15 decision by Sullivan Morgan at 113, a pin by Prentice at 120 and a 12-6 decision by Hudson VanderKooi at 126). That gave Allegan an insurmountable 33-24 lead with one match remaining, which the Tigers opted to void.

"It's hard to compete against a great team like Constantine, especially when you have competed against them five times within one season," Beard said. "They know our lineup very well and managed to move their weights around to make it a very close dual."

Allegan, ranked fourth in Division 3, is slated to square off with No. 5 Hart in a state quarterfinal on Friday, Feb. 21, at Wings Event Center in Kalamazoo. The match is scheduled to start at 4:30 p.m.

"Our team is confident, excited, and ready to continue the momentum they have used all season," Beard said. "Nobody saw our team coming this season and we are ready to continue to show everyone what Allegan has become.



Allegan Cooper Prentice (left) competes in a match earlier this season. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

"These wrestlers have made such an incredible improvement over the last few years, going from seven kids on the team and not winning a single match at districts three seasons ago to the team going to the Team State Finals."

Martin's Sam Bleeker (right) shakes hands with his opponent at the start of a recent match. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Martin collects third straight regional crown

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

DECATUR—In his first two years as head coach of the Martin wrestling team, Logan Curry guided the Clippers to the state tournament at Wings Event Center in Kalamazoo.

Curry extended that streak to three in a row thanks to Martin's dominating showing in a Division 4 team regional at Decatur on Wednesday, Feb. 12.

After dispatching Lawton by a score of 77-5 in the regional semifinals, the Clippers rolled to the 62-17 win over the host Raiders in the regional title match.

Martin is seeded third in the quarterfinals and will face No. 6 Union City at noon on Friday, Feb. 21. The winner will advance to the state semifinals against either No. 2 St. Louis or No. 7 Charlevoix at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 22.

In the regional finals, Martin picked up six pins—Jacinto Lopez (106 pounds), Cole Reitz (132), Jack Bagwell (157), Gixxer Blair (165), Sam Bleeker (215) and Cooper Dinse (285)—to go with forfeit wins by Jayce Ritchie (138) and Malcolm Smith (190).

Logan Gilbert (126) and Haylen Buell (157) both picked up tech falls, while Urijah Joostberns earned a major decision at 120.

Winning via pin against Lawton were Dinse (285), Lopez (106), Joostberns (113), Mason Morales (132), Seth Toris (144), Buell (150), Bagwell (157), Smith (190) and Bleeker (215).

Plainwell falls to Three Rivers in regional finals

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

THREE RIVERS—After finishing second to Three Rivers in the Wolverine Conference standings, the Plainwell boys wrestling team got another crack at the Wildcats in a Division 2 regional final.

Unfortunately for the Trojans, Three Rivers came out on the winning end of this showdown as well.

The second-ranked Wildcats won nine of the 14 weight classes to hand fifth-ranked Plainwell the 42-21 loss.

The Trojans made it to the regional finals after holding off ninth-ranked Hamilton 41-35 in the regional semis.

The Three Rivers match started on a high note for Plainwell, which got a 5-0 decision from Adin Young at 285 pounds and a pin from Dylan Nieuwenhuis at 106. Then, after a decision by the Wildcats, the Trojans got a pin from Tyler Cooper at 120 to go up 15-3.

But Plainwell would win just two of the final 10 weight classes—a 12-5 decision by Austin Gyorkos at 138 and a 9-3 decision by Rickey Lynch at 157—to suffer the loss.

In the Hamilton match, Grady Erlandson (113), Cooper (120), Ben Lynes (132), Brody Hercik (144), Shayden Girton (190) and Young (285) all recorded pins for Plainwell. Nieuwenhuis (106) won by a 19-1 tech fall.

Hamilton got pins from Chase Morrison (126), Ray Lopez (165) and Shane Dams (215) to go with tech fall from Bryce Morrison (150) and Tyler Block (175). Jacob Chase earned a major decision at 157 and Malachi Kapenga had a decision at 138.

Plainwell's Adin Young (right) won both of his matches at team regionals. The Trojans lost to Three Rivers in the regional finals. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Late surge lifts Plainwell to victory over Otsego

Alyssa Weldon handles the ball for Plainwell in the closing minutes of the game with Otsego. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

OTSEGO—Last month, the Otsego girls basketball team beat archrival Plainwell on the Trojans' one court.

On Friday, Feb. 14, Plainwell returned the favor.

Trailing by four points midway through the fourth quarter, the Trojans regrouped to post the 38-34 win over the host Bulldogs.

The Trojans led 12-10 at halftime and 23-22 after three quarters.

"We've had a lot of games like this during the season when we'd have the lead and then we'd lose the lead and not be able to recover," Plainwell coach Mark Stephenson said. "But tonight, the girls stuck with it and made plays when they needed to make play."

Alyssa Weldon and Anna Overway led the charge for Plainwell, combing for 11 of the Trojans' 15 fourth-quarter points.

Weldon finished with a game-best 16 points, while Overway was close behind with 15.

"Alyssa was very determined tonight," Stephenson said. "She's very tough on herself and she hasn't had the season she's wanted overall, but she put all of that out of her mind tonight and let her natural instinct take over. She's special when she does that.

"And Anna was big for us down low, coming up with a lot of rebounds and putbacks."

Reagen Engbers paced Otsego with nine points, followed by Tessa Prough with eight. Mya Engbers and Audrey Lingbeek added six points each.

"We came out and weren't very intense to start the game," Otsego coach Tony Koshar said. "We got it going much better in the second half and did some nice things.

"But it just seemed like we lost it there in the fourth quarter. It seemed like we were in control and just didn't handle the end-of-the-game situation very well."

Allegan girls run winning streak to five

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The winning ways continued for the Allegan girls basketball team when it hosted Bridgman on Monday, Feb. 17.

The Tigers used a balanced scoring attack to post the 43-35 win over the Bees, extending their winning streak to five games in the process.

"This was a big win for us," said Allegan coach Sharron Thompson, whose team improved to 11-6. "We enjoyed a better shooting night and got some key stops on the defensive end to get the victory."

Allegan trailed 11-9 after one quarter, but used a 13-5 edge in the second quarter to go up 22-16 at halftime. The Tigers maintained that advantage throughout the second half.

Ellie Bishop scored a team-best 11 points, included four in the second frame. Maddie Antkoviak and Jayden VandenAkker added seven points each, with Bailey Meade and Ellie Ziemelis chipping in with five points apiece.

That win came after victories of 29-18 over Fennville on Friday, Feb. 14, and 39-37 over Galesburg-Augusta on Tuesday, Feb. 11.

Against Fennville, the Tigers had leads of 6-3 after one quarter, 10-6 at halftime and 16-15 after three quarters, with points being hard to come by.

Allegan got some separation in the fourth quarter thanks to a 13-3 scoring run that included all seven of Bishop's points and four of Antkoviak's eight points.

"The game stayed close most of the way as both teams struggled shooting, but we came out on top," Thompson said.

Ceeley Howard led Fennville with eight points.

In the G-A game, Allegan led 32-28 through three quarters and held off the Rams for the win.

"We pulled off the road win in a nail-biter in a game that came down to free throws at the end," Thompson said. "We kept fighting used our defense to hold them until we got our offense in rhythm."

VandenAkker led the way with 10 points, followed by Meade with nine. Bishop and Antkoviak had six points each, with Alyssa Macherzak going for five.

Edwards breaks single-game scoring record for Allegan

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Allegan junior boys basketball standout Quentin Edwards, Jr. wrote his name in the record book during the Tigers' home game against Black River on Tuesday, Feb. 11.

Edwards scored 44 points to lead Allegan to the 84-53 win.

That point total surpassed the previous single-game school record that was set by Todd Arlington 42 years ago and matched by Caleb Byers in 2010.

"Quentin played extremely well, being a three-level scorer and giving max effort defensively to rattle the Black River guards," Allegan coach DeAndre Thrash said. "That defensive effort was matched by the squad early."

Brandon Thrash added 14 points in the win, followed by Ayden Fusco with eight. Jeremiah Tate and Antonio Taylor each had seven points, with Jesse Smith adding four points.

"There was a great offensive flow to the game for us," DeAndre Thrash said. "The players were patient and made the right reads."

Quentin Edwards, Jr., scoring a school-record 44 points in a win over Black River. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Martin girls earn pair of victories

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

DELTON—With the season getting to its final stages, the Martin girls basketball team are starting to get some momentum.

After beating Coloma 40-10 on Tuesday, Feb. 11, the Clippers bested Delton 40-31 on Friday, Feb. 14, to collect their third straight win and improve to 7-10.

Martin trailed 19-17 at halftime against Delton, but used a 19-5 surge in the third quarter to take command.

"We were able to come away with a hard-fought game," Martin coach Ben Schipper said. "Delton played tough in their zone, and we had a hard time moving the ball like we wanted in the first half.

"We made some adjustments at halftime, focusing on attacking the gaps and moving without the ball more and had more success in the third quarter. We also had great pressure defense in the third quarter that led to a couple easy buckets and a huge momentum shift."

Marybeth Ritchie was, according to Schipper, "all over the floor," leading the Clippers with 12 points and 13 rebounds to go with three steals and three blocks.

Kayden Jager had 10 points, while Anna Jager had seven points and seven rebounds. Avery Jager added eight rebounds.

The Coloma game was all about defense for Martin, with the Clippers holding the Comets to two or fewer points in three of the four quarters.

The fact that Martin only suited up six varsity players and a couple of JV call-ups due to sickness and injury made the victory even more impressive.

"Our defense was elite," Schipper said. "Offensively, we couldn't buy a bucket most of the game, but our effort on the offensive glass led to 30 offensive rebounds, giving us plenty of chances to finally put the ball in the hoop.

"Our guards were aggressive all night creating open looks for themselves and teammates. Every player on the team scored tonight which is always a great achievement and we had some career firsts for three of the girls."

Anna Jager had her first double-double with 12 points and 10 rebounds; Torryn Harris hit her first varsity 3-pointer; and freshman Aliyah DeGlopper scored her first varsity points in her first varsity game.

Avery Jager added seven points and 11 rebounds, while Harris had seven points and nine rebounds. Ritchie added 11 rebounds.

Martin boys suffer loss to Delton

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

DELTON—Ethan Fitzpatrick scored 21 points for the Martin boys basketball team in its contest with Delton on Friday, Feb. 14.

That was the good news for the Clippers. The bad news was that Fitzpatrick's performance wasn't quite enough to translate into a win, as Delton won 50-37.

Blake Sweeting added 11 points and eight rebounds, while Peyton Schuring-Harris had four points and 11 rebounds.

"I'm really proud of our effort," Martin coach Corby Callaway said. "We have been dealing with illness throughout the week, and were down to five guys at practice most of the week. But we gave it everything we had tonight."

Martin trailed 18-11 after one quarter before narrowing the gap to 34-32 entering the final quarter.

But Delton used a 16-5 run in the final frame to pull away.

"We made some defensive adjustments after the first quarter and it helped us get back into the game," Callaway said. "Unfortunately, we had three or four plays down the stretch that hurt us. Still, I'm super proud of how we fought, all things considered."

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Saugatuck girls post three victories in four days

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

HOLLAND—In 2010, DJ Khaled released the song "All I Do is Win," with a little help from T-Pain, Ludacris, Snoop Dogg and Rick Ross.

Given the way the Saugatuck girls basketball team has been playing this season, that might as well be the Trailblazers' theme song.

Saugatuck—ranked sixth in Division 3—collected its 11th straight win in the form of a 57-29 victory over Holland Black River on Friday, Feb. 14.

The win was the third of the week for the Trailblazers, who bested North Muskegon 55-35 on Wednesday, Feb. 11, after beating South Haven 51-48 the previous night.

Saugatuck clinched the divisional title for the second straight year thanks to the triumph over Black River.

"Despite staring a little slow, we were happy with our kids' effort tonight," Saugatuck coach Kevin Tringali said after the Black River game. "Our defense is getting better and post players Maggie Loomis and Nova DeGraff continue to improve."

Mylah Simpson and Tali Laskowski led the charge for Saugatuck at both ends of the floor.

Defensively, the pair combined for 18 steals. Offensively, Simpson scored a team-best 21 points, with Laskowski next in line with 13 points.

Penny Grob added 10 points to give Saugatuck three double-digit scorers.

The Trailblazers also had three players score in double figures in the North Muskegon game, including 19 from Simpson.

Laskowski was close behind with 17 points, while Kennedy Gustafson chipped in with 10 points as part of her double-double.

Saugatuck jumped out to an 18-8 lead and never looked back.

"I was extremely pleased with how we played," Tringali said. "This game had a trap written all of it after last night's tough battle with South Haven, bur our kids got after it right from the jump. To me, that's another sign of mental growth."

Speaking of the South Haven game, it was a barn burner from the start, with the Rams leading 11-10 after one quarter and the teams locked at 22-22 at halftime.

Saugatuck built a 39-33 lead after three quarters and held off the Rams and Ly'Nique Cunningham—who scored more than 30 points—in the final frame despite losing Gustafson to fouls with seven minutes remaining.

"Our kids grew up tonight," Tringali said. "They found a way to play through some adversity and, although tightened up at times, they made the plays when they counted most. It was good for us to be in this situation. The moment wasn't too big."

Laskowski netted a team-best 20 points, followed by Simpson with 17 and Gustafson with 10.

The win over South Haven (12-4) was the second for Saugatuck over the Rams in less than a week. The Trailblazers earned a 44-36 decision on Wednesday, Feb. 5.

Saugatuck's Tali Laskowski (right) handles the ball in a recent game. Laskowski scored 13 points in the Trailblazers' win over Holland Black River. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Otsego swim & dive sets pool record in 200 medley relay

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

OTSEGO—A pair of state-cut performances highlighted Otsego's Southwest and Central Michigan Swim Conference dual meet against Hastings on Tuesday, Feb. 11.

Liam Raseman posted a state-qualifying time of 5:12.92 in the 500-yard freestyle. The 200 free relay team of Blake Guerrant, Willsun Fuller, Carson Bydash and Liam Smith, meanwhile, qualified with a winning time of 1:58.94.

That helped the Bulldogs secure the 74-66 win to finish at 6-1 in league duals.

"It was a great meet for us," Otsego coach Darryl Belton said. "We got the two state cuts, and as a bonus we broke the pool record in the relay.

"That was even more exciting because it was a record Plainwell held and now we can get them off of our (record) board."

Belton also had words of praise for Raseman.

"Liam Raseman's 500 swim was special," Belton said. "He is just a freshman, and to get that time was big. Now he gets to swim at the state championships and compete with the big boys."

Otsego took first place in all but one of the 12 events, with Smith and Fuller leading the way by each winning two individual events and being on two winning relays.

Smith won the 50 free (22.24) and the 100 breaststroke (1:02.02), while Fuller took top honors in the 200 IM (2:20.73) and the 100 butterfly (55.94).

In addition to both being on the winning 200 free relay team, Smith was on the winning 200 medley relay team (1:53.7) along with Raseman, Jacopo Legisa and Bydash, while Fuller was on the winning 400 free relay team (3:49.08) with Garrison Busscher, Dillon Campbell and Raseman.

Also picking up wins for the Bulldogs were Tyler Campbell in the 200 free (2:19.95), Caleb Wesseldyk in diving (217.8) and Dillon Campbell in the 100 backstroke (1:11.75).

Otsego freshman Liam Raseman is seen during his state-qualifying effort in the 500-yard freestyle. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Tigers win two dual meets

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The regular-season portion of the schedule ended on a high note for the Allegan boys swim & dive time.

After earning a 104-65 road win over Sturgis on Tuesday, Feb. 11, the Tigers upended visiting South Haven 107-63 in a makeup meet on Thursday, Feb. 13 to finish at 4-3 in league duals.

The highlight of the South Haven meet came courtesy of Oliver Burnett, who qualified for the Division 3 State Finals with a winning time of 50.59 in the 100-yard freestyle.

Burnett also won the 200 free at 2:01.32, making him the lone Allegan athlete to capture more than one individual event.

But wait, as they say in those late-night infomercials, there's more. Because Burnett also was part of two winning relay teams: the 200 medley (1:44.2) and the 400 free (3:32.41) along with Sam Kelley.

Allegan's 200 free relay team of Josh Kelley, Wesley Goodspeed, Emerson Scripps and John DeLaet (1:45.66) also won, as the Tigers swept the three relays.

Other individual-event winners for Allegan were Noah Greig in diving (153.25); DeLaet in the 500 free (6:00.15) and Sam Kelley in the 100 backstroke (1:04.57).

In the Sturgis meet, Burnett also won the 100 and 200 free. He was also part of the winning 400 free relay along with Charlie Morris, Sam Kelley and Smith as well as the winning 200 free relay along with DeLaet, Goodspeed and Scripps.

Allegan's other individual-event winners included Greig in diving, Sam Kelley in the 100 butterfly, Scripps in the 500 freestyle, Conrad in the 100 backstroke and Smith in the 100 breaststroke.

"With the regular season wrapped up, we now shift our focus to the SCC Conference Championship beginning Feb. 28 at Otsego High School," Allegan coach Carol Gephart said. "With momentum on their side and several swimmers closing in on state cuts, our guys are poised for an exciting championship meet."

Sam Kelley competes in a recent meet for Allegan. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Trojans earn victory at new pool

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

PLAINWELL—The first meet in its new pool was a successful one for the Plainwell boys swim & dive team.

Hosting Marshall on Tuesday, Feb. 11, the Trojans won eight of the 12 events and secure the 116-69 victory.

Plainwell coach Andrea Murphy entered the meet anticipated it to be much closer than it turned out to be.

"Marshall was supposed to be a big meet for us," said Murphy, whose team remained unbeaten in Southwest and Central Michigan Swim Conference action at 5-0. "They beat us last year by like four points, so we weren't going to go through that again.

"However, they had a lot of sickness and had to make changes to their lineup. They focused more on their three relays and were trying to get some cuts for the state meet."

Competing in the new pool for the first time caused some nerves for the Trojans, according to Murphy.

"We had a solid meet for the most part, but we did have a few mistakes with starts and goggles coming off," she said. "We were nervous because it was our first meet in the new pool.

"There are so many little things that pop up that you can't really prepare for until you go through them when running a meet at a new facility. I am so fortunate that we have an amazing group of swim parents who took on learning the new timing system.

"We also had support from Otsego's computer operator and Plainwell alum Brianne Demarest, who really helped us get up and running. All in all, we survived."

Sam Harper was the lone Trojan to win multiple individual events, taking first in both the 200-yard IM (2:04.64) and the 100 free (49.55).

Also winning individual events for Plainwell were: Alex Steele in the 200 free (2:01.37); Aidan Ranger in diving (205.8); Austin Susens in the 500 free (5:37.31); Ben Sparks in the 100 backstroke (1:02.76); and Davis Nooney in the 100 breaststroke (1:12.66).

The Trojans also took the top spot in the 400 free relay, with the team of Steele, Grady Nugent, Henry Cox and Harper posting at a time of 3:36.29.

Plainwell's Sam Harper relaxes following one of his events. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

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LEIGHTON TOWNSHIP

Budget Public Hearing
(Truth in Budgeting) Notice

The Leighton Township Board will hold a public hearing on the proposed township budget for fiscal year 2025-2026 at the Leighton Township Hall, 4451 12th St., Wayland MI on Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. **The property tax millage rate proposed to be levied to support the proposed budget will be a subject of this hearing.** A copy of the budget is available for public inspection at the Leighton Township Hall.

The Leighton Township Board will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities upon seven days notice to the Leighton Township Board.

Note: Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Leighton Township Board by writing or calling the following:

Rachel Fennema
4451 12th St., Suite A
Wayland MI 49348
(616) 891-8238

Notice complies with MCL 141.436 & MCL 211.24e

TOWNSHIP OF GANGES

ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Ganges Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing and regular meeting concerning variance request application on Thursday March 6, 2025 6:00 p.m. at the Ganges Township Hall, 1904 64th Street, Fennville.

Please take further notice that the matter to be considered at the public hearing include the following:

Asa and Agger Palley; Phillip and Charlotte Palley have petitioned for a rear setback (street front on a lake parcel) variance to construct a new residence at 2268 Lakeshore 0307-420-134-00. Required rear setback (street front on a lake parcel) 30 feet; request 10ft of relief (20ft to property line, street).

Written correspondence may be submitted to the Clerk at 1904 64th Street, Fennville, MI 49408 up to the date of the hearing and may also be submitted at the hearing.

Anyone interested in reviewing the related applications may contact the Zoning Administrator 1-800-626-5964 or email mtsallegan@frontier.com to request a digital copy.

Necessary and reasonable aids for disabled persons will made available with sufficient notice to the clerk.

Robin Phelps
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NOTICE

MONTEREY TOWNSHIP
2025 BOARD OF REVIEW

TO ALL TOWNSHIP TAXPAYERS:
THE 2025 BOARD OF REVIEW FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONTEREY WILL MEET AT THE MONTEREY COMMUNITY BUILDING, 2999 30TH STREET, ON ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2025
at 7:30 p.m.
HEARING APPEALS
MONDAY, MARCH 10, 2025
from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
and
TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2025
from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The tentative recommended equalization ratios and estimated multipliers (factors) necessary to compute state equalized values of real and personal property in the Township of Monterey for 2025 are:

CLASS	RATIO (%)	MULTIPLIER
AGRICULTURAL	42.07	1.1885
COMMERCIAL	49.40	1.0121
INDUSTRIAL	40.93	1.2216
RESIDENTIAL	46.60	1.0730
PERSONAL	50.00	1.00000

By Board resolution, residents are able to protest by letter, provided the protest letter is received by the Assessor before 5:00 P.M. on Friday, March 7, 2025. For an appointment please call (269) 358-8727.

Brian Busscher
Monterey Township Assessor
2999 30th St.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Sealed Proposals for
PURCHASING THE MAHAN PARK GAZEBO
within the City of Allegan,
will be received by the office of the City Clerk for the City of Allegan, Michigan until Thursday, February 27, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

Each bid must be made on a form to be obtained at the office of the City Clerk and the Proposal enclosed in a sealed envelope directed to the City Clerk and clearly stating the contents thereof. The city will review the information submitted and select the firm considered most qualified to perform the scope of services based on the proposals received.

Any questions relative to the scope may be directed to the following:
Doug Kadzban
Public Works Director
dkadzban@cityofallegan.org
231 Trowbridge Street
Allegan, MI 49010

GANGES TOWNSHIP

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Ganges Township Board of Review will meet at the Town Hall, 1904 64th St, Fennville, MI 49408 on the following dates:

March 4, 2025
5:30 pm - Organizational Meeting
March 12, 2025
2:00pm - 5:00pm &
6:00pm - 9:00pm- Appeals Meeting
March 13, 2025
9:00am - 12:00pm &
1:00pm - 4:00pm - Appeals Meeting

Please call or email for an appointment to appear before the Board of Review. Letter appeals are accepted and must be filed with the Assessor prior to 5:00pm, March 12th. All appeals are required to submit form L-4035 – Petition to Board of Review.

The 2025 tentative ratios and multiplying factors are listed by class as set by the Allegan County Equalization Department as follows:

Agricultural	42.34 / 1.18092
Commercial	49.47 / 1.01071
Industrial	46.68 / 1.07112
Residential	45.01 / 1.11086
Personal Property	50.00 / 1.00000

Heather Jahr
Ganges Township Assessor
(616) 970-7820
gangesassessor@gmail.com

NOTICE

Martin Township
2025 Board of Review

The Martin Township Board of Review will be held at the Township Hall (Fire Hall), 988 Templeton, Martin, MI 49070, on the following dates:

Tuesday, March 4,
9:00 a.m. – Organizational Meeting only
Monday, March 10,
9 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Appeal Hearing
Thursday, March 13,
3 p.m. to 9 p.m. – Appeal Hearing

The Board of Review will meet as many more days as deemed necessary to hear questions, protests, and to equalize the 2025 assessments. Letters are accepted as appeal, provided they are received prior to the final appeal hearing. Send letter to the Martin Township Board of Review, PO Box 184, Martin, MI 49070.

The tentative ratios and the estimated multipliers for each class of real property and personal property for 2025 as provided by the Allegan County Equalization Department are as follows:

Agricultural	44.55%	1.12233
Commercial	50.26%	0.99482
Industrial	44.56%	1.12208
Residential	48.57%	1.02944
Personal Property	50.00%	1.00000

State Equalized Value (SEV) represents 50% of the True Cash Value of the property. Taxable Value (TV) is the lower of the SEV or the 2024 TV multiplied by the Inflation Rate Multiplier (1.031). Transfers of ownership in 2024 will cause the cap in taxable value to be removed, making the taxable value equal to the SEV for 2025.

Glenn Leep
Martin Township Supervisor

Krista Simmons
Martin Township Assessor

OVERISEL TOWNSHIP

2025 MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW

The 2025 tentative ratios and factors are given below by class, as set by the County Equalization Department.

CLASS	RATIO	FACTOR
AGRICULTURE	42.46	1.1767
COMMERCIAL	49.07	1.0190
INDUSTRIAL	48.46	1.0318
RESIDENTIAL	48.30	1.0352
ALL PERSONAL	50.00	1.0000

Adjustments have been made to the assessment roll so that the anticipated Equalization Factor for 2025 will be 1.000. Property owners may examine the assessment roll at the office during normal Township Hall hours.

2025 Board of Review will be in session during the days listed below. Property owners who desire to appeal the assessed value of their property must do so during these times. Appeals are by appointment only. For an appointment call 269-751-7030. Written appeals will also be accepted.

Monday, March 10: 2 - 5 PM and 6 – 9 PM
Wednesday, March 12: 9 AM – Noon and 1 – 4 PM

LEE TOWNSHIP

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lee Township Board of Review will meet at the Township Hall, 877 56th St, Pullman, MI 49450 on the following dates:

March 4, 2025
6:30 pm - Organizational Meeting
March 12, 2025
2:00pm - 5:00pm &
6:00pm - 9:00pm - Appeals Meeting
March 13, 2025
11:00am - 2:00pm &
3:00pm - 6:00pm - Appeals Meeting

Please call or email for an appointment to appear before the Board of Review. Letter appeals are accepted and must be filed with the Assessor prior to 5:00pm, March 12th. All appeals are required to submit form L-4035 – Petition to Board of Review.

The 2025 tentative ratios and multiplying factors are listed by class as set by the Allegan County Equalization Department as follows:

Agricultural	44.46 / 1.12461
Commercial	52.94/ 0.94447
Industrial	45.89/ 1.08956
Residential	46.57/ 1.07365
Personal Property	50.00 / 1.00000

Heather Jahr
Lee Township Assessor
(616) 970-7820
leeassessor1@gmail.com

NOTICE

WATSON TOWNSHIP
2025 Board of Review

TO ALL TOWNSHIP TAXPAYERS: The 2025 Board of Review of the Township of Watson will meet at the Watson Township Hall, 1895 118th Ave., Allegan, MI on

Organizational Meeting: Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 6:00pm. Organizational meeting only, no tax protest at this meeting.

TAX PROTEST WILL BE HEARD:

Monday, March 10, 2025	Tuesday, March 11, 2025
9:00 am to 12:00 pm	2:00 pm to 5:00 pm
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm	6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

At which time the board of review will hear protest relative to assessments for 2025 and will, upon presentation of sufficient evidence, correct the assessments in a manner as will, in their judgement, make it relatively just as equal.

The tentative factors of the Township of Watson for 2025 are as follows:

Classification	Ratio	Multiplier
Agriculture	40.50	1.23457
Commercial	37.98	1.31648
Industrial	41.96	1.19161
Residential	48.46	1.03178
Developmental	NC	NC
Personal	50.00	1.0000

Please direct all written, faxed or e-mailed replies to:

Watson Township Supervisor, Kevin Travis
1895 118th Ave.
Allegan, MI 49010
Fax: 269-672-5488
Email: supervisor@watsontownshipmi.gov

All written replies must be received no later than Monday, March 10, 2025

Faces on the Street

By G C Stoppel

A month into a new presidential administration, and with forty-seven months left to go, what are your thoughts about the success or failure?

-Young man at a gas station on M-89: "I guess he's doing all right. He's shaking things up, and maybe the country needs that."

-Middle-aged couple, same location. Man: "I think he's doing the right things to get us back on track." Woman: "Same here. I agree."

-Woman near the Fennville hardware store, looked around to make sure no one was too close: "I think he's an egotistic power-mad whack job. He's all over the map several times a day. And so is his stooge."

-Couple near the Fennville pharmacy, Man: "I don't know what to think. We needed some changes, but is this the right way to do it? I don't know." Woman: "I don't want to get involved. Sorry."

-Younger woman near the Allegan Public Library: "I didn't vote for him, and I think what he's doing with migrants is wrong. Sure, get the criminals out of here, but what about the children? Huh? What about them? I'll bet some of them worry that if they come in here (pointing to the library) ICE might be here on a raid. I should ask but I'm scared about getting into trouble."

-Woman with her: "And none of us voted for Musk. I wonder who's running the country? Him or Trump?"

-Woman near the Allegan Post Office: "He's wonderful! We're getting rid of the [migrants] and putting the Russians and Chinese on notice not to start messing around. I like what he said about the Iranians, too! He's God's man for our time!"

-Another woman, same location: "I don't know. He's sort of a mixed bag. I like that Robert Kennedy, though, when it comes to being cautious about vaccines and our food. He makes sense.

-Man near the Regent Theater: "Sort of exciting, like watching an adventure movie on the big screen. But I don't know about getting rid of the pennies." Laughs and walks away.

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Public Notices

NOTICE OF INTENT TO FORFEIT AND DISPOSE OF PROPERTY

BRADLEY BASTOW (formerly of 6990 114th Ave. in South Haven):

The state of Michigan, Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, herewith provides notice that it intends to dispose of certain personal property that was seized on May 12, 2017, in the course of investigating a complaint filed with the Bureau of Professional Licensing (Complaint No. 51-XX-146276). If you believe you have a claim to said property, please reply in writing to:

Lorne Carignan
Bureau of Professional Licensing
611 W. Ottawa
P.O. Box 30670
Lansing, Michigan 48909
1-23 3-27

FORECLOSURE NOTICE THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTN HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. MORTGAGE SALE—Default has been made in the terms and conditions of a Mortgage made by Kevin M. Williams, a single man, of 2909 Lavita Lane, Dallas, Texas 75234 ("Mortgagor") to BankUnited, N.A., a national banking association, of 7815 NW 148 Street, Miami Lakes, Florida 33016 ("Mortgagee") dated September 25, 2020 and recorded with the Allegan County Register of Deeds, State of Michigan, on September 30, 2020 in Liber 4517, Page 629, Document #2020019993 (the "Mortgage"). The sum claimed to be due and owing on said Mortgage as of the date of this Notice is One Million Three Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy and 10/100 Dollars ($1,325,770.10) including principal and interest. Under the power of sale contained in said Mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Thursday, March 6, 2025, at 9 a.m., local time, said Mortgage will be foreclosed at a sale at public auction to the highest bidder at that place where Circuit Court is held in Allegan County of the premises and land described in the Mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due on the Mortgage, together with interest, advances, legal costs, and charges and expenses, including the attorney fee, and also any sums which may be paid by the undersigned necessary to protect its interest. Said premises are situated in the City of Otsego, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: Commencing 66 feet South 75 degrees 40 minutes East from Southeast corner of Fair and Charles Street, thence South 75 degres 40 minutes 66 feet, thence South 14 degrees 20 minutes West 165 feet, thence North 75 degrees 40 minutes West 66 feet, thence North 14 degrees 20 minutes East 165 feet to beginning, Section 23, Town 1 North, Range 12 West. Parcel Identification Number: 54-023-057-00 Commonly known as 218 Charles St, Otsego, MI 49078 The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of such sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948 CL 600.3241 or 600.3241a, as the case may be, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Dated: January 14, 2025 BankUnited, N.A., a National Banking Association Ingrid A. Jensen (616) 608-1107 Attorney for Mortgagee Clark Hill PLC 200 Ottawa NW, Suite 500 Grand Rapids, MI 49503

(01-23)(02-20)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM, on March 20, 2025. The amount due on the Mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a Mortgage made by Sarkis Sarkisian and Kathryn Anne Woods Sarkisian to American Advisors Group dated January 19, 2022 and recorded January 31, 2022 in Liber 4725 at Page 1, Allegan County, Michigan. Said Mortgage is now held by Finance of America Reverse LLC by assignment and/or merger. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of $299,469.42. Said premises are located in Allegan County, Michigan and are described as: Lot(s) No. 86, 87, 88, and 89 of Felker's Lake Shore Subdivision, according to the recorded plat thereof. Being the same property conveyed to Sarkis Sarkisian and Kathryn Anne Wood Sarkisian, husband and wife from Kathryn Anne Woods Sarkisian by Warranty Deed dated March 22, 2021 and recorded March 23, 2021 among the Land Records of Allegan County, State of Michigan in Book 4594, Page 247 Instrument No. 2021006924. Tax Account #: 03-59-210-032-00; ALT APN: 59-210-032-00 Said property is commonly known as 3077 May Ave, Douglas, MI 49406. The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Please be advised that any third party purchaser is responsible for preparing and recording the Sheriff's Deed. If this is a residential Mortgage, the following shall apply: ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the Mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. THIS COMMUNICATION IS FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT, AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. IF YOU: ARE A DEBTOR IN AN ACTIVE BANKRUPTCY CASE; ARE UNDER THE PROTECTION OF A BANKRUPTCY STAY; OR, HAVE RECEIVED A DISCHARGE IN BANKRUPTCY AND YOU HAVE NOT REAFFIRMED THE DEBT, THIS NOTICE IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS AN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT A DEBT FROM YOU PERSONALLY. Dated: January 27, 2025 Attorney for the party foreclosing the Mortgage: Thomas E. McDonald (P39312) Brock & Scott, PLLC 5431 Oleander Drive Wilmington, NC 28403 PHONE: (844) 856-6646 File No. 24-36501

(01-30)(02-20)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on March 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Daniel Martinez And Nyokia Martinez also known as Nyoka Martinez, Husband and Wife

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for America's Wholesale Lender, its successors and assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust 2021-RP5

Date of Mortgage: June 24, 2005

Date of Mortgage Recording: July 5, 2005

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $38,209.38

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Clyde, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Starting at the Northeast corner of the Southeast quarter of the Northeast quarter, Section 4, Town 2, North, Range 15 West, as a Point of Beginning; thence South 135 feet; thence West 325 feet; thence North 135 feet; thence East 325 feet to the Point of Beginning, being in Section 4, Town 2 North, Range 15 West.

Common street address (if any): 2334 54th St, Fennville, MI 49408-9587

The redemption period shall be 1 year from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: January 30, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1551601
(01-30)(02-20)

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - ALLEGAN COUNTY Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on March 06, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Georgia McNees, an unmarried woman Original Mortgagee: Centex Home Equity Company, LLC Date of mortgage: April 28, 2006 Recorded on May 12, 2006, Liber 29856, on Page 270, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Asset Backed Securities Corporation Home Equity Loan Trust, Series MO 2006-HE6, Asset Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series MO 2006-HE6 Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Fifteen Thousand Twenty-Six and 26/100 Dollars ($115,026.26) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: LOT 24 OF BELDEN SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN LIBER 8 OF PLATS, ON PAGE 18. TOGETHER WITH AND SUBJECT TO THE USE OF SHORE DRIVE AND HILL DRIVE. Commonly known as 692 East Lake 16 Road, Allegan, MI 49010 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Asset Backed Securities Corporation Home Equity Loan Trust, Series MO 2006-HE6, Asset Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series MO 2006-HE6 Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400

1551806
(01-30)(02-20)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE DUTY. ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Under the power of sale contained herein in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or a cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on March 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE SALE – Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Joseph J. Laroy, a Married Man and Pricilla Laroy, his wife, original mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. (MERS), as nominee for Decision One Mortgage Company, LLC, dated September 27, 2004, and recorded in Liber 2738, Page 108, in Allegan County records, Michigan, and assigned to Household Finance Corporation III by a corrective Assignment of Mortgage recorded on April 10, 2012 in Liber 3607, Page 376, and assigned to U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF8 Master Participation Trust by an Assignment of Mortgage recorded on February 24, 20214 in Liber 3816, Page 688, and assigned to U.S. Bank Trust, National Association, as Trustee of the FW Series I Trust by an Assignment of Mortgage recorded on May 12, 2020 in Liber 4461, Page 226, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Nine Thousand Four Hundred Seventy-Two and 80/100 dollars ($109,472.80). Said premises are situated in the Township of Otsego, County of Allegan, and State of Michigan, and particularly described as: Lot 5, Oak View Farm, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 15 of Plats, Page 66, Allegan County Records. Commonly known as: 282 Zak Rd., Plainwell, MI 49080 Property Address: 282 Zak Road, Plainwell, MI 49080 Parcel No.: 17-660-005-00 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated: February 6, 2025 For more information, please call: (440) 572-1511 Sottile and Barile PLLC Attorneys for Plaintiff 394 Wards Corner Boulevard, Suite 180 Loveland, OH 45140 File MF2410006 - Laroy, Joseph J., Pricilla Laroy

(02-06)(02-27)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on March 20, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Matthew Adams, an unmarried man

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Lakeview Loan Servicing, LLC

Date of Mortgage: May 13, 2022

Date of Mortgage Recording: May 20, 2022

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $163,463.33

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Dorr, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 251, Ranchero Estates No. 5 and the replat of Lots 130 and 131 of Ranchero Estates No. 4, being in the North 1/2 of the South 1/2 of Section 22, Town 4 North, Range 12 West, Door Township, Allegan County, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof in Liber 10, Page 96

Common street address (if any): 4083 Ann Ct, Dorr, MI 49323-9416

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: February 6, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1552249
(02-06)(02-27)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on March 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Robert S. Morgan Jr., a married man

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc.

Date of Mortgage: July 12, 2016

Date of Mortgage Recording: July 15, 2016

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $64,503.32

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Cheshire, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: A parcel of land described as commencing at the Southwest corner of the East 70 acres of the West half of the Southeast quarter of Section 10, Town 1 North, Range 14 West, and running thence North 250 feet; thence East 250 feet; thence South 250 feet; thence West 250 feet to the place of beginning

Common street address (if any): 4077 108th Ave, Allegan, MI 49010-9315

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: February 6, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1552485
(02-06)(02-27)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on March 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Miriaixcel Cardona, a married woman, as her sole and separate property, whose address is 5549 109th Avenue, Pullman, MI 49450, as original Mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., acting solely as a nominee for Aspire Financial, Inc., D/B/A Aspire Lending, being a mortgage dated November 4, 2015, and recorded on November 13, 2015 in Liber 3980 Page 705, Allegan County Records, State of Michigan and then assigned to NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated April 13, 2022 and recorded on April 13, 2022 in Liber 4750 Page 84, Allegan County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of SEVENTY THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED NINETY AND 60/100 DOLLARS ($70,890.60). Said premises are situated in the Township of Lee, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: Lots 64, 65 and 66 of Vio Ashdale's Addition to the Village of Pullman, according to the recorded plat thereof as recorded in Liber 4 of Plats on Page 12. Street Address: 5549 109th Avenue, Pullman, MI 49450 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. Dated: February 6, 2025 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Kenneth J. Johnson (P69564), Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC, 5955 West Main Street, Suite 509, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Telephone: (312) 541-9710. File No.: MI 25 6248

(02-06)(02-27)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT, ANY INFORMATION WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY. Default has occurred in the conditions of a mortgage made by Melissa Young (the "Mortgagor") in favor of Big Brother Bail Bonds Agency, LLC, a Michigan limited liability company with an address of 800 Monroe Ave NW, Suite 212, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 (the "Mortgagee") dated August 19, 2024, and recorded on September 19, 2024 at Liber 4974, Page 637 of Allegan County Records (the "Mortgage"). The amount claimed to be due on said Mortgage and unpaid as of the date of this Notice is Five Thousand Five Hundred and 0/100 ($5,500.00). This sum will increase as additional interest, costs, expenses, and attorney fees accrue under the Mortgage and its related note as permitted by Michigan law after the date of this Notice. No legal or equitable proceedings have been instituted to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage and the power of sale in the Mortgage has become operative by reason of default. The Mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the property herein described, or some part of thereof, at public auction, to the highest bidder for the purpose of satisfying the amount due and unpaid on the Mortgage, along with interest due, the legal costs and charges of the sale as allowed by statute and/or the Mortgage, and any taxes and insurance that the Mortgagee pays on, or prior to, the date of said sale. Notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises or some part of them at a public venue at the place of holding, Allegan County Courthouse Lobby at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 at 9:00 a.m. on March 20, 2025. The property mentioned and described in the Mortgage is located in the Township of Valley, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, more specifically described as: LOT 155 ASPEN ACRES SEC 21 T2N R14W. Parcel ID: 22-160-155-00 Commonly Known As: 1777 Grant Drive, Allegan, MI 49010 together with all existing or subsequently erected or affixed buildings, improvements, and fixtures: all easements, rights of way, streets, roads, alleys, and public places, privileges, and appurtenances, public or private, now or later used in connection with the property; and all rights to make divisions of the land that are exempt from the platting requirements of all applicable land division or platting acts, as amended from time to time. Attention Purchasers: the Foreclosing Mortgagee reserves the right to cancel the sale prior to sale or to rescind the sale at any time. In the event of cancellation or rescission, your damages, if any, will be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at the sale, plus interest. If the mortgaged property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for any damage to the property during the redemption period. The length of the redemption period will be six (6) months from the date of the sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be thirty (30) days from the date of the sale, or as otherwise provided by statute. DATED: February 7, 2025 SHAUN P. WILLIS (P62441) WILLIS LAW ATTORNEYS FOR BIG BROTHER BAIL BONDS AGENCY, LLC 491 W. South Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007 (269) 492-1040

(02-13)(03-06)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on March 20, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Aaron J. Lynema, a married man Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender`s successors and assigns Date of mortgage: April 29, 2021 Recorded on May 6, 2021, Liber 4615, on Page 681, and re-recorded via Loan Modification recorded on January 11, 2023 in Liber 4829, on Page 402 Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Union Home Mortgage Corp. Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Fifty-Eight Thousand Six Hundred Seventy-Nine and 63/100 Dollars ($158,679.63) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: Commencing at the North 1/4 post of Section 33, Town 3 North, Range 13 West, thence South 0 degrees 25 minutes 54 seconds West on the North and South 1/4 line 489.50 feet, thence East on the South line of the North 20 acres of that part of the Northeast 1/4 lying West of the centerline of the highway 1182.52 feet to the place of beginning of this description, thence continuing East 589.19 feet to the centerline of 30th Street, thence along the centerline of 30th Street North 0 degrees 05 minutes 48 seconds West 109.51 feet, thence North 01 degree 29 minutes 56 seconds East 111.2 feet, being a chord on a curve to the right with a radius of 1910.08 feet and a central angle of 26 degrees 30 minutes, thence West 591.95 feet, thence South 0 degrees 00 minutes 31 seconds East 220.77 feet to the place of beginning. Commonly known as 2590 30th St, Allegan, MI 49010 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

(Continued on Page B7)

CLASSIFIEDS

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Misc.

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PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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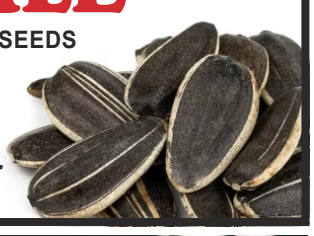

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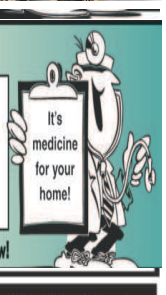

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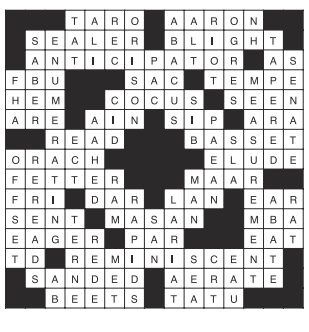

Public Notices

Continued from, Page B6

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Union Home Mortgage Corp. Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400
1553070
(02-13)(03-06)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Trust After Death No Formal Probate
Trust Administration Unsupervised
In the Matter of Rita A. Lawless, Deceased
and the Rita A. Lawless Trust
dated December 12, 2011
Date of Birth: December 10, 1929
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent Rita A. Lawless, who lived at 1112 Fountain View Circle, Unit 1, Holland, Michigan 49423 died on February 6, 2025. She is the settlor or grantor of a trust, Rita A. Lawless Trust dated December 12, 2011.
Creditors of the decedent or the trust are notified that all claims against the decedent or the trust will be forever barred unless presented to Thomas Mark Lawless at 1812 Tomahawk Trail, Allegan, Michigan 49010, as trustee, or to the trust's attorney, James A. Donkersloot at 132 E. Main Avenue, P.O. Box 230, Zeeland, Michigan 49464, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
Donkersloot Law Office
February 12, 2025
James A. Donkersloot, P-30433
132 E. Main Avenue, P.O. Box 230
Zeeland, MI 49464
(616) 772-9000
Thomas Mark Lawless, Trustee
1812 Tomahawk Trail
Allegan, MI 49010
(616) 403-9188

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Trust After Death No Formal Probate
Trust Administration Unsupervised
In the Matter of Lynn Jay Huff, Deceased
and The Lynn Jay Huff Revocable Living Trust dated April 25, 2002
Date of Birth: December 21, 1950
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent Lynn J. Huff, who lived at 4722 - 18th Street, Byron Center, Michigan 49315 died on January 10, 2025. He is the settlor or grantor of a trust, The Lynn Jay Huff Revocable Living Trust dated April 25, 2002.
Creditors of the decedent or the trust are notified that all claims against the decedent or the trust will be forever barred unless presented to Douglas J. Huff at 4722 - 18th Street SW, Byron Center, Michigan 49315, as trustee, or to the trust's attorney, James A. Donkersloot at 132 E. Main Avenue, P.O. Box 230, Zeeland, Michigan 49464, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
February 12, 2025
Donkersloot Law Office
James A. Donkersloot, P-30433
132 E. Main Avenue, P.O. Box 230
Zeeland, MI 49464
(616) 772-9000
Douglas J. Huff, Trustee
4722 - 18th Street SW
Byron Center, MI 49315
(269) 208-9565

STATE OF MICHIGAN
JUDICIAL DISTRICT
48TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTY PROBATE
SUMMONS
Matthew Antkoviak P-59449
CASE NO. 25- 790.30 CH
Plaintiff's name(s), address(es), and telephone no(s).
JEANNE BODFISH, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Sheila Ann Garlock
Plaintiff's attorney, bar no., address, and telephone no.
Michael J. Becker P81132
ORTON, TOOMAN, HALE, McKOWN & KIEL, P.C.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
314 Trowbridge St., PO Box 239
Aliegan, MI 45010
(269) 673-2136
v
Defendant's name(s), address(es), and telephone no(s).
Marjorie Yerek, and her unknown heirs, devisees and Assigns; Bennie McAnally and his unknown heirs, devisees and assigns
Civil Case
There is no other pending or resolved civil action arising out of the same transaction or occurrence as alleged in the complaint.
SUMMONS
NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT: In the name of the people of the State of Michigan you are notified:
1. You are being sued.
2. YOU HAVE 21 DAYS after receiving this summons and a copy of the complaint to file a written answer with the serve a copy on the other party or take other lawful action with the court (28 days if you were served by mia) or served outside this state).
3. If you do not answer or take other action within the time allowed, judgment may be entered against you for the relief demandedin the complaint.
4. If you require special accommodations to use the court because of a disability or if you require a foraign language interpreter to help you fully participate in court proceedings, please contact the court immediately to make arrangments.
Issue Date 1/27/25
Expiration date: 04/27/25
****
STATE OF MICHIGAN
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
COUNTY BUILDING,
ALLEGAN, MICHIGAN 49010
File No.: 25-70030-CH
HON. MATTHEW ANTKOVIAK
JEANNE BODFISH as Personal Representative for the ESTATE OF SHEILA ANN GARLOCK, Plantiff
MARJORIE YEREK and
her unknown Heirs, Devisees and Assigns; and, BENNIE MCANALLY and his unknown Hiers, Devisees and Assigns.
Defendant
Michael J. Becker P81132
ORTON, TOOMAN, HALE, McKOWN & KIEL, P.C.
Attorneys for Plaintiffs
314 Trowbridge St., PO Box 239
Allegan, MI 49010
(269) 673-2136
ORDER FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION
At a session of court held in the co use in Allegan County, Michigan, on 2/10/2025
Present: Honorable Matthew Antkoviak
Circuit Court Judge
Plaintiff filed a verified ex parte motion for service of process in the discretion of the court. After reading the verified motion, the court finds that Plaintiff has shown that service of process cannot reasonably be made on Defendants by the methods provided in MCR 2.105(A), in that Plaintiff has demonstrated diligent attempts to locate Defendants.
The court further finds, pursuant to MCR 2.105(1), that service of process by publication
is the best available method of service of process reasonably calculated to give Defendant actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard.
IT IS ORDERED that Plaintiff must serve the Defendants by publication for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper located in Allegan County, Michigan.
Matthew Antkoviak P-59449
Hon. Matthew Antkoviak
Prepared by: Orton, Tooman, Hale, McKown & Keil, P.C.
By Michael J. Becker P81132
2-20 3-6

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 2025-65464-DE and JUDGE Hon. Jolene Clearwater
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of GREGORY D. KEYSER Date of Birth:*August 17, 1947
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, GREGORY D. KEYSER, died December 28, 2024 .
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to TODD KEYSER , personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
February 11, 2025
SCHUITMAKER MORAITIS LAW OFFICE, PC
CHRISTOPHER MORAITIS P87052
181 W. Michigan Ave., Ste. 1, P.O. Box 520
Paw Paw, MI 49079
(269) 657-3177
TODD KEYSER
68644 Rambling Rose Drive
Lawton, MI 49065
(269) 806-2155

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable)
whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:
TAKE NOTICE: Marcia Marie Bell has filed a petition for name change.
A name change hearing will be held on April 2, 2025 at 3:30pm at FAMILY COURT COURTHOUSE before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater, to change the name of: Marcia Marie Bell to Marcia Marie Squire

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STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
Estate of LUIS H. TOLEDO and THE TOLEDO FAMILY TRUST
Date of Birth: October 19, 1943
TO ALL CREDITORS:
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, LUIS H. TOLEDO, who lived at 7178 Windcliff Drive, South Haven, Michigan 49090, died on January 31, 2025. The decedent established the TOLEDO FAMILY TRUST on August 2, 2016. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to MARJEAN M. TOLEDO, TRUSTEE of the TOLEDO FAMILY TRUST within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
TRUSTEE: MARJEAN M. TOLEDO
Address: 7178 Windcliff Drive
South Haven, Michigan 49090
ATTORNEY: SYDNEY E. PARFET
Address: Howell Parfet Schau
350 East Michigan Avenue, Suite 500
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007

LEGAL NOTICE
In the matter of Irish Roofing of Michigan, LLC v. Taylor King, Allegan County Circuit Court Case No. 24-69688-CK
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:
A summons and complaint has been issued against the above-named defendant and this notice is being published in accordance with the order regarding alternate service entered by the court on January 13, 2023. You may view the summons and complaint and supporting documents at the Allegan County Circuit Court, 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, Michigan 49010.
Dated: January 17, 2025
Barbara Muller-Wilson P42823
MULLER, BAATENBURG & WILSON LAW GROUP, PC.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
979 Spaulding Ave. SE, Suite B
Ada, MI 49301-3706
(616) 454-4401
2-6 2-20

Peek at the Past

From the pages of The Allegan News and The Allegan County News and Gazette:

Feb. 20, 1950

Churchmen will eat flapjacks: Tuesday is Pancake Day and members of the Men's Club of the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd will mark the day with their fourth annual pancake supper in the Parish House.

Although the club members may not realize it when they sit down at 6:30 Tuesday evening, other church members in other countries have been celebrating the day for hundreds of years. It always falls on Shrove Tuesday, the day before Lent begins.

The pancake has been the symbol of this day since medieval times when "shriving cakes" were associated with the approach of Lent in England.

The cakes were made according to a strict formula set up by the church. Four symbolic ingredients were always used: flour, for the staff of life; mild for innocence; salt for wholesomeness; and eggs as a desirable Lenten food.

After a meal of shriving cakes, the people flocked to church to be "shriven," or absolved for their sins.

Feb. 20, 1975

County 'mini' oil boom?: Gas and oil could be gushing out of the new Allegan County wells this summer if suspected reservoirs of black gold pan out.

And in a county already punctured by more oil wells than any other in the state, the projected flow means dollars not only to the companies doing the drilling, but also to county residents.

"At this time," says John Miller of Miller Bros. oil firm of Allegan, "estimates for success in Allegan County are the same that we saw in northern Michigan in 1969 and 1970. The same success we've had there may very well occur here."

Brothers John (left) and Gene Miller study a printout of geological tests that aid in determining the location of oil and gas deposits in the county. Miller Bros. is the most active independent oil firm in the state.
—News & Gazette photo

Miller, active president of the Independent Petroleum Association of America, said his company and others have been taking seismic reading throughout the county during the past couple of years and all signs indicate there's oil and gas to be had.

"Activity ought to start moving ahead in the county during 1975," he said. "There should be some preliminary test drilling, more seismic studies. And if things look good, we'll progress form last '75 on."

Miller, who hops around the country making speeches for the IPAA and testifying before Senate and House subcommittees, said it's difficult to get a picture of the time required to locate and begin producing and oil well.

Feb. 24, 2000

Ne county facilities on tap; specific plans indefinite as yet: Allegan County could conduct ground breaking for two new service buildings as early as April 2000.

Both the proposed 911/ Emergency Operations Center and planned Family Independence Agency/ Health Department facility will be raised in the Dumont Complex beginning this year. Almost all physical features of the buildings are tentative at present.

The planning stage took off in late January when the county commissioners gave the building authority the right to choose architects and construction managers for the projects. The building authority quickly convened an advisory board for each project, completing selections by the first week of February.

Allegan County Finance Director David VandeRoovaart said architects and construction managers working together in the planning stage would make sense.

"That way we'll get the best product at the best cost," he said.

Feb. 20, 2020

Allegan Oks riverfront restrooms for $220,000: Allegan city will spend up to $220,000 this spring to build public restrooms to serve an increasingly busy riverfront area.

City manager Joel Dye said Tuesday demolition had begun that morning within the lower/river access level of 223 Hubbard St. to prepare it for renovations to be completed before the end of May.

Allegan city administrators made the case for developing a set of restrooms to serve the riverfront at the city council's planning session Feb. 10. Draft minutes of the official meeting that followed show the proposal passed 5-2.

The project has the city purchasing the lower level of the building and renovating it to contain five single-stall bathrooms (including two ADA accessible stalls), a respite room for volunteers working riverfront events, a storage room, a mechanical access room, a lobby and an external patio.

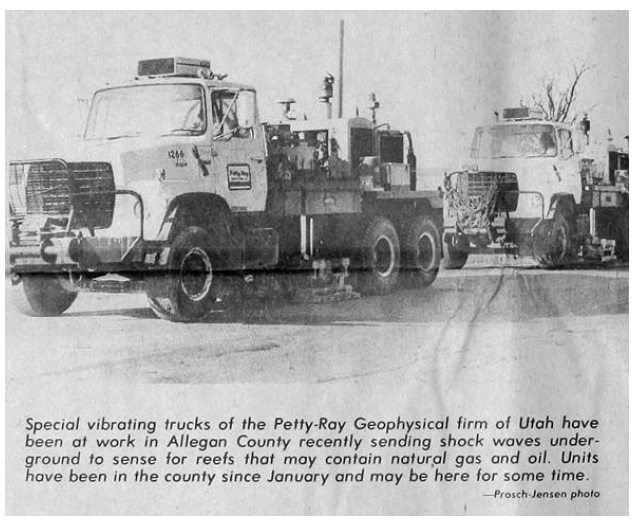
The area being renovated totals 1,100 square feet.

The total price tap includes paying $60,000 to buy the lower level. Dye said that was the third of the price new owner One Enterprises recently purchased it for.

Actual renovation coats total an estimated $143, 869.

Surveying and other legal costs for the project are budgeted at $10,000. That leaves $1,631 as contingency spending as needed.

—Compiled by Jason Wesseldyk



Special vibrating trucks of the Petty-Ray Geophysical firm of Utah have been at work in Allegan County recently sending shock waves underground to sense for reefs that may contain natural gas and oil. Units have been in the county since January and may be here for some time.
—Prosch-Jensen photo

Deaths

Jan. 8, 2025
VIRGINIA ELENA SCHUMAKER, 87, Plainwell

Jan. 31, 2025
LUIS HORACIO TOLEDO, 81, Casco Twp.

Feb. 1, 2025
FRANK HENRY BRADLEY III, 82, Otsego
JOHN HERBERT WATSON, 79, Douglas

Feb. 2, 2025
CLARISSA PEARL BRADFORD, 96, Manlius Twp.

Feb. 3, 2025
MICHAELLE LYNN REDFORD, 63, Gun Plain Twp.
DIANE MARIE TURANZAS, 79, Casco Twp.

Feb. 4, 2025
WILLIAM ROBERT BROWN JR, 76, Overisel Twp.
ROBERT KENNETH HUNT, 66, Saugatuck Twp.
JULIA J THOMPSON, 86, Holland

Feb. 5, 2025
JAMES PEDERSEN KEAG, 71, Ganges Twp.

Feb. 6, 2025
DONALD JAY BENTLEY, 94, Trowbridge Twp.

Feb. 8, 2025
CYNTHIA ANNE BAINE DEMAAGD, 88, Laketown Twp.

Feb. 9, 2025
WILLIAM JOHN HEBERT, 83, Manlius Twp.

Feb. 10, 2025
SHARON LEONA GRAVES, 76, Otsego Twp.

Marriages

The following people applied for a marriage license between Feb. 4 and Feb. 12:

TIMOTHY RICHARD PHILIPP, Holland, and **ANDREA LYNNE JENKINS**, Plainwell
KATHRYN LALA ROOKUS, Wayland, and **VAPHEIO OGUN ORISHA PRESENCE ENGLISH**, Novi
HEATHER RENYA SNYDER, Allegan, and **CARA MARIE KEMP**, Allegan
KYLE ELLIOT TRINKLEIN, Fennville, and **AMANDA LYNN JOHNSON**, Fennville
RODGER MICHAEL SHOEMAKER, Wayland, and **LISA MARIE HARMS**, Wayland
HEATHER TIFFANY SEGERDAHL, Plainwell, and **CHRISTOPHER JONATHON YODER JR**, Plainwell
ANGEL ALBERTO RUTIAGA, Pullman, and **EDILIA ALVAREZ**, Pullman

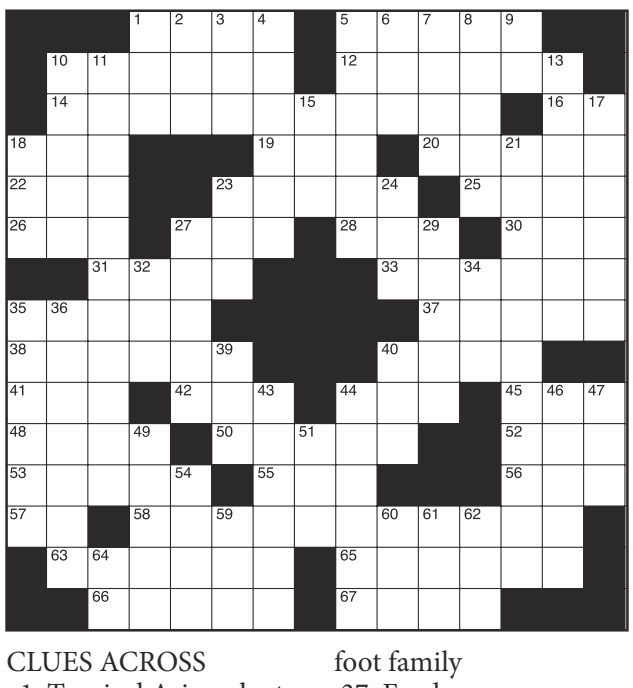
Sudoku

Fun By The Numbers
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

8	6							4
				9				3
9	3					2		
			4					9
					5	4	7	2
	8						6	
	9		6		1			
7			3	2				
					4		1	7

(See Solution Page B6)

Crossword



CLUES ACROSS
1. Tropical Asian plant
5. Yankees' slugger Judge
10. Helps to preserve food
12. Plant disease
14. One who predicts
16. Equally
18. Burundian franc
19. Pouch
20. Arizona city
22. Surround
23. Hard, heavy timber
25. Witnessed
26. They __
27. French river
28. A way to drink
30. Small constellation
31. Peruse a written work
33. Type of hound
35. Plant of the goose-foot family
37. Evade or escape
38. A way to confine
40. Volcanic crater
41. Weekday
42. Women's service organization (abbr.)
44. Local area network
45. Sensory receptor
48. Posted
50. Tibetan pastry
52. Licensed for Wall Street
53. Very willing
55. Golf score
56. Consume
57. Touchdown
58. Tends to remind
63. In a way, smoothed
65. Poke holes in the ground
66. Herbaceous plants
67. Taiwanese river

CLUES DOWN
1. Body art
2. Boxing's GOAT
3. Film for posterity (abbr.)
4. Prayer
5. Calculating machine
6. Keyboard key
7. Outburst
8. Man-eating giants
9. New Hampshire
10. Type of sword
11. Counting
13. Pants style
15. Political action committee
17. U.S. government legislative branch
18. Civil Rights Act component
21. Contractors take one
23. Spanish soldier
24. A person's brother or sister
27. Expressed pleasure
29. Song of praise
32. Shock treatment
34. Patti Hearst's captors
35. Counteract
36. Goes over again
39. Popular Dodge truck
40. Male adult
43. A part of a river where the current is very fast
44. Rope used to lasso
46. Become less intense
47. Subway rodent
49. Lead alloy
51. Japanese honorific title
54. Advise someone
59. Famous NYC museum
60. Ocean
61. Cathode-ray tube
62. Cologne
64. It starts with these two

■ see **Solution**, Page B6

RELIGION SECTION

In the opening verses of the fourteenth chapter of St John's Gospel, Jesus is telling his disciples to not be afraid, to not let hearts be troubled. Rather we should believe in God and in him.

Often, that is far easier said than done. For many practical, practicing Christians, the real challenge of keeping an untroubled heart is often found in the secular side of life. We might find that our relationship with Jesus is fairly solid, but all that is swirling around us in the rest of the world is highly disturbing.

As an old country Methodist preacher often said, "Pay your money and take your choice." If you want a troubled heart, there are plenty of choices from the economy to bird flu to politics. Or, closer to home, it could be relationships within the family or wider community, money, health, or a frozen pipe.

One thing we share in common is our anxiety about our own future. When I was in my twenties, I thought by the time I hit forty-five, I would have a firm understanding and grasp on things. I am a few decades beyond that, and I am still just as confused and uncertain about what comes next.

I firmly believe one helpful method is to understand what is completely out of my control. For example, there is nothing I can do about what is happening in Washington, Lansing, or elsewhere. It's out of my control, and I remind myself to leave it alone, or at least not let it take up free rent in my mind. Whenever possible, disengaging or detaching our heart and mind from a problem beyond my control, is a very good idea.

Other situations, over which we can have some influence, needs a different approach. This is why the 1938 film, You Can't Take it With You, is so beloved. Each evening when the Sycamore family sat down to dinner, Grandpa Martin Vanderhof would return thanks at the beginning of the meal. He would thank God for the food, adding that they all still had good health, and sometimes add something good that had recently happened. He would conclude by saying, "and the rest we leave up to you. Amen."

I like that line, "and the rest we leave up to you." It is a very poignant reminder that it is God, not us, who is ultimately in control of all things. When we keep that thought in mind, and practice it, our hearts and minds are no longer trouble.

Sometimes all it takes is to first keep in mind the 1937 gospel hymn, "Just a little talk with Jesus." We are privileged to talk things over with Jesus, then entrust him to take care of us and let go and let God go to work.

G C Stoppel
Priest Associate
Episcopal Church of the
Good Shepherd, Allegan, MI

Directory of Area Churches

Allegan Assembly of God
424 DeLano St, Allegan
Pastors Tim Heath & Paul Hays
Church: 673-6577

Allegan Bible Church
412 S. Sherman, Allegan
Pastor Jon Gruss
Church: 673-6831

Allegan Christian Center
700 Ely St., Allegan
Paul Knuckles, Pastor
Church: 673-2921

Allegan County Jail
Chaplain Sarah Montgomery
Phone: 673-0350

Allegan United Methodist Church
Corner Walnut & Trowbridge streets, Allegan
Pastor Julia Humenik
Church: 673-4236;

At the Master's Feet
814 21st St., Otsego
269-694-6897
Paster Ray Brown

Blessed Sacrament Church
110 N. Cedar Street, Allegan
Fr. Simon Manjooran
Church: 673-4455

Bloomingdale Bible Church
210 Chestnut at Pine NW
Bloomingdale
Ofc. 269-427-2101

Bravo Community Church
5587 113th Ave., Fennville
Pastor Duane Terpstra
616-886-1214

Burnips United Methodist
4241 30th, Burnips
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
616-896-8410

Calvary Church of Wayland (IFCA)
304 S. Main Street, Wayland
Pastor Chad Peckham
ccwayland.org

Casco United Methodist Church
880 66th Street, South Haven
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
269-227-3328
www.cascoumc.org

Chicora Country Chapel
4399 108th Ave., Allegan
Pastor Herb Curry
Phone: 521-7657

Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave., Allegan
www.allegancccc.org ·
(269) 673-2329
Pastor Wally Coots

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
687 Linn Street, Allegan
Church: 673-9617

Church of God - Otsego
112 Kalamazoo St., Otsego
Pastor Stephen Burrow Sr.
269-694-9481
www.otsegocog.com

Corner Bible Church
4001 124th Allegan
673-5995
www.cornerbiblechurch.com

CrossWind Community Church
1632 142nd Avenue
Dorr, MI 49323
616-359-9013
Pastor Tommy Boutell

Dunningville Reformed Church
2559 M-40, Allegan
Church: 751-5894
Pastor Eric Burrows-Stone
dunningville.org/index.html

East Martin Christian Reformed Church
510-118th Ave., Martin
269-672-5746
www.eastmartincrc.org

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
101 North Walnut St, Allegan
Office: 673-2254

Faith Baptist Church
2846 125th Ave., Allegan
John Looman, Pastor
673-5040 1-888-354-3272

Fennville Assembly of God
5897 124th Ave.
Fennville, MI 49408
269-561-2683

Fennville United Methodist Church
5849 124th St., Fennville
269-561-5048
Worship 11:00 a.m.
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

First Presbyterian Church
200 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church: 673-4631
www.fpcallegan.org
Pastor Sheri Harris
10:30 service time.

First Baptist Church
1290 32nd St., Allegan
Service at 10:00am
Pastors Nathan Smith & Brendon Bayley
www.fbcallegan.com

First Baptist Church of Otsego
247 E Allegan St., Otsego
(269) 694-4160
firstbaptist@fbcotsego.org

First Church of God
1313 Marshall Street, Allegan
269 673-3881
www.pathtohim.org
Pastor, Tim Secord

First Congregational Church
323 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church Office: 673-3139

First Congregational Church
120 W. Morrell St., Otsego
269-694-6085
Pastor Lenny Luchetti

First Presbyterian Church of Plainwell
303 East Bridge St.
Plainwell, MI 49080
Pastor Ruth Lowry 685-5990

Friendship Bible Church
104 Baker St., Hopkins, MI
Pastor Chris Cronk and Worship Pastor Tony Caldarona
Office 793-7929

Ganges Baptist Church
6577 122nd Avenue, Fennville
269-543-4203
11AM each Sunday

Grace Church of Hamilton
3690 Lincoln Rd. P.o. Box 97
Hamilton Mi 49419
269.264.4900
Gracechurchofhamilton@gmail.com

Haven Church
PO Box 1
4691 Oak Street, Hamilton
(269)751-7300
Pastor Mike Drew
FB:havenreformedchurch

Hope Lutheran Church
290 12th St., Plainwell
(269) 685-1348
Pastor Nicole Smith
Worship 10:30am; S. School 9:15am

Hopkins Community Reformed Church
2142 128th Ave., Hopkins
(269) 793-7361
hopkinscommunitychurch.net

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 N. Maple St., Hopkins
(269) 793-7323
Pastor Kelsey French

Horseshoe Community Bible Church
4950 104th Avenue, Grand Junction
269-521-4580 ·
Pastor Don Miller

Immanuel Lutheran Church
631 Grand Street, Allegan
Church: 673-3335
Rev. Christopher Laughlin

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness
2199 Taft Road, Allegan
Phone: 673-6179

Living Waters Community Church
5458 M-89, Fennville
Service: 10:30 Sundays
Pastor Andrew Leach
269-561-5277

M-40 North Church of God
1900 M-40, Allegan
Pastor Nathan Strom
Church: 673-4412

Martin Reformed Church
1073 W. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor: Matthew Hendricks
672-5596

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor Margaret Stoken
269-672-7097
www.martinumc.org

Merson Church
3313 102nd Ave., Gobles, MI
Pastor Alan Carson
Office: 673-5274
www.mersonchurch.org

Montage Ministries
"A Community in Worship"
Griswold Auditorium
Tuesdays 6:30-8:00pm

Monterey Center United Methodist Church
3022 130th Ave.
Monterey Center, 49328
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
793-7288

Mt. Calvary M.B. Church
5425 105th Ave., Pullman
Pastor Everett Belue
269-382-3405

New Hope Baptist Church
2011 Lincoln Road (M-40 N)
Pastor Tadd Butler
673-1938

Northbridge Church
8824 Douglas, Kalamazoo
269-385-4378 ·
www.northbridge.cc

Northpoint Ministries
10976 M40 (M40/CR390)
Gobles MI · 269.628.9199
Pastor Gary Lounsberry
Sunday Worship: 11am

OAKLAND CRC
4460 38th Street
Hamilton. Mi. 49419
616 688 5290
Pastor Mark Vande Zande

Otsego United Methodist Church
223 E Allegan St. Otsego MI
10:00 a.m. Worship
Reverend Dan Minor
Otsegomethodistchurch.org

Peace Lutheran Church
805 S. Wilmott St., Otsego
www.peaceotsego.com
694-6104

Pearl United Methodist Church
1689 56th St., Fennville
269-561-5048 Worship 9:30 am
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

Iglesia de Dios Pentecostal M.I. Pentecostal Church of God I.M
2281 57th St, Fennville
Wed/Miércoles @ 7:00 pm
Sunday/Domingo @ 10:00 am
Worship Service @ 11:00am
Rev. Jeremias & Maribel Gaytan
231) 923-6887 - (231) 923-6959
Email: gytnj@yahoo.com

Plainwell First Baptist Church
404 W. Bridge St., Plainwell
(269) 685-8888
Pastor George Osborn

Plainwell First United Methodist Church
200 Park St. Plainwell
269-685-5113
www.fumcplainwell.com

Rectify Church
247 N. Main St., Allegan
616-218-1556
Pastor Sarah Montgomery

Refreshing Springs Ministries
201 Briggs St., Allegan
616-510-7416
Pastor Adrian Hall

Restoration Christian Community
Live service 10:00 am Sundays
RestorationChristianCommunity.org
Pastor Austin T Kreutz
269 567 8330

River of Life Church
605 W. Allegan, Otsego
269-672-9904
www.alleganchurch.com

Seventh Day Adventist Church
229 Cutler Street, Allegan
Dan Rachor, Pastor
Church: 673-3284

Shelbyville United Methodist Church
938 124th Ave., Shelbyville
672-7097 - Church office
Pastor Margaret Stoken

South Monterey United Methodist Church
Pastor Kelsey French
Church: 793-7323

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
11850 9 Mile Rd., Shelbyville
269-664-4345
Service: Sundays 9:30 am

Saint John's Church Of God In Christ
716 Academy St, Allegan
Rev. Jeremiah Johnson Sr.
Phone: 673-8590—673-3007

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
1764 34th St., Allegan
Pastor Ronald Kruse 673-2079
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

St. Margaret's Catholic Church
766 S. Farmer St., Otsego
269-694-6311

Third Coast Community Church
www.thirdcoastff.org |
269.857.5633
6069 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453
Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Trowbridge Community Church
355 26th Street, Otsego
Pastor Mykel Hall, Pastor
Church: 673-5502

The River Flows with Hope and Healing
1652 M-40 North, Allegan
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Unity Baptist Church
35 14 12th St. Wayland
Pastor Kelly Ryan
Cell # (269) 330-2217

Watson Bible Church
1626 116th St., Otsego
Pastor Tim Morris
672-2166

Wayland Community Church
502 West Superior, Wayland
(616) 877-6134
Worship Sunday @ 10:30am

UP UniPac "Contract Packaging Specialist" 809 Airway Dr. – Highland Industrial Park 269-673-8488

RAPA Rapa Electric, Inc. 1173 Lincoln Rd., Allegan 673-3155/673-3157

Waanders Concrete Co. Ready-Mix Concrete 3169 Babylon Rd., Allegan 673-6352

Allegan Eyecare Complete Eye Care for the Entire Family 123 Locust St., Allegan 673-5100 • 1-800-797-4351 www.alleganeyecare.com

LEGG LUMBER & Hardware Where the Builders Go! We deliver 730 River St., Allegan 269.673.4470 www.legglumber.com

NAPA AUTO PARTS 1513 Lincoln Rd., Allegan 269-673-3080

Ted's Auto Body Shop, Inc 892 34th St., Allegan 269-673-2309 Fax: 269-686-8508 tedsab1@gmail.com

A&A ANTKOVIAK & ANTKOVIAK PC For all your legal services 416 Hubbard St, Allegan • (269) 673-8468 antkoviak@frontier.com

Furniture Mattress Appliance COUNTRY HOUSE FURNITURE Your Complete Home Furnishing Store! 212 Trowbridge, Allegan, MI (269) 686-1155 8337 M-140 Hwy., South Haven, MI (269) 637-6135 www.countryhousefurniture.net

God He Integrity Opens Vision People's Encouragement Eyes www.HOPKINSPROPANE.com

To sponsor this page and join these community-minded businesses, call 269-673-5534.

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices Cheri Sleeman Schulz Associate Broker, REALTOR 269-720-4735 cherischulz@bhhsmi.com 430 Western Avenue, Allegan